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G2 pages 10/11

Tory Euro tensions eased A road to nowhere

Clarke claims tactical victory

HE Chancellor, Kenneth Clarke, last night won a vital breathing space in the Conning war over Europe. But Mr Clarke's conciliatory Comto intensify Eurosceptic pres-sure on both sides to prevent being sucked into the orbit of the proposed Euro-pean single currency.

Mr Clarke and his allies claimed a tactical victory

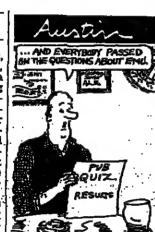
tics' worst fears of a sell-out, and promised to fight for gradual erosion of John Major's Maastricht

The 80-minute Commons cross-examination of the Chancellor served to ease ten-sions in the Tory ranks which had threatened to unsettle today's last pre-election Bud-get and even to precipitate a no-confidence challenge to the Government's survival.

The feuding Tory factions behaved as though they had looked into the election abyss and drawn back from a public quarrel. But Mr Clarke's in-sistence that the Cabinet was right to keep open its options on joining the single currency "there could be advantages in such a move" — drew ironic cheers from Labour and a hostile growl from Tory

In the run-up to the Euro-pean Union's Dublin summit on December 13, their suspicion remains high that, under the proposed "stability pact", Whitehall may be drawn into a system of swingeling EU fines for running persistent budget deficits — even if a future British government decides to stay out of the pro-posed euro bloc.
"This House is entitled to debate the level of the fines.

the flexibility and inflexibil-ity of the system. That has not been debated adequately so far until this afternoon. If it had been, this needless row would have been avoided," the former chancellor, Norman Lamont, warned MPs. Despite Mr Clarke's emphatic, even scornful, rejec-



that he had been poised to in the Brussels, the sceptics are only half-reconciled by assurances extracted during what John Redwood later described as "a good day's work". During his Commons grill-

ing — arranged on Sunday to stem the gathering crisis — Mr Clarke dismissed sugges-tions that he had been saying one thing in public, another in private. He also complained about leaks that had exposed his negotiating position, and he implicitly accused the EU Commissioner, Nell Kinnock, of being the source of a paper provided for Mr Kinnock and his fellow commissioner, Sir Leon Brit-tan, leaked by Labour to the

Sunday newspapers.

In his only testy outburst
Mr Clarke warned against
damaging "hysteria and iunuando". Sir James Goldsmith, leader of the Referendum Party, watched from the visitors' gallery.

Throughout the exchange Mr Clarke, the Cabinet's most outspoken pro-European, repeatedly assured MPs that he was keen to subject the complex single currency negotiations to the scrutiny and approval of what he called "the parliament of our independent nation state".

Significantly, he offered various reassurances, in addition to Friday night's promise to place a block, known as a "scrutiny reserve", on any political agreement at Ecofin are keen to crown their presi

majority voting, rather than unanimity, could be used by the euro "ms" to impose fines on the "outs" was incorrect; Court of Justice from eroding

sign away British options at next Monday's meeting of BU government had moved closer finance ministers (Ecofin) in to Britain's position, in resisting German pressure for large and automatic fines for states belonging to the euro system that overspend.

Behind the scenes the

Prime Minister had also worked to re-build bridges with backbenchers. In what was described as a firm but constructive meeting Mr Major took the Clarke line when he met Sir Marcus Fox, chairman of the 1922 committee, and senior colleagues. He took the Clarke line. The crucial exchange was

with Mr Redwood, who de-manded more stringent writmanded more stringent writ-ten protection for the 1991 Massiricht opt-out.
Would you ensure that such words are written clearly into the face of our

regulations so there can be no more legal doubt? Our record before the European Court of Justice is very disappointing and there are different legal and there are different legal views about the current loose wording," Mr Redwood said.

Mr Clarke argued it was ministers, not the European Commission, who made the final decision. "I will seek to come back with the best possible."

come back with the best pussible text that puts, as you said, absolutely beyond doubt what I already believe to be the case," he said. "I agree it has to be seen to be copper-bottomed, or as copper-bottomed as we can get it."



Airlift plan to break Channel blockade

Hundreds of British lorry drivers of the suppliers have been caught up and food will start to go off in the lorries. We're doing all we can to help our their picket line and join suppliers find alternative them in a buffet of bread, ham they will intervene with tear gas

Keith Harper Transport Editor

SUPERMARKET chain plans to fly produce into Britain to heat the French lorry tensified last night when police threatened to use tear gas to disperse British and French truckers in Calais.

Tesco announced its plans to replenish stocks of or-anges, lettuce and salad at its 500 outlets as talks between management in Paris broke down. Negotiations will not

union spokesman in Calais

to continue the talks under the chairmanship of an independent official appointed by the French government. But they said they would resume they said they would resume the continue the said they would resume the continue the said they would resume the continue the said they were losing money and their pattence was waning. the blockade from midnight if the dispute had not been lorryloads of fresh game that

flying in foodstocks from 500 outlets as talks between Spain from tomorrow if its Franch really know how to go French transport unions and produce continued to be held about making their point. management in Paris broke up in France. Its produce They have got real solidarity, down. Negotiations will not buyer, Peter Durose, said: and we admire them for that, resume until tomorrow, a Little is moving, and many but they've made their point

e With tear gas
mion spokesman in Calais
aid.

After a partial blockade of
After a partial blockade of
British lorry
drivers were boled up in Calais last night. Many exish truckers withdrew to allow the sides in the dispute to continue the tellow to continue have been blockading 100 key points in France since last Monday. But the British

esolved.

Tesco said it would start lying in foodstocks from Another added: "The

and beer in the 100 metre gap between the French and Brit-

Sir George Young, the Transport Secretary, prom-ised to press the French government for compensation for the drivers, many of whom have watched while their trucking on down, page 9

loads have rotted. He told the Commons that the French transport minister had given him details of the claims that could be made, but industry sources thought that any compensation would take a long time coming and would not

amount to much.
The Freight Transport
turn to page 3, column 7

Drivers up ante, page 6; Not

Two queens for Christmas

Andrew Culf on a comic alternative to the royal message

WHEN the royal fam-ily gather round the television at San-dringham on Christmas Day they will have a choice of viewing. On BBC1 and ITV at 3pm the head of the household will be delivering her traditional message to her loyal subjects.

But on Channel 4, the self-styled Queen of Hearts will be offering an alterna-tive 10-minute broadcast. It will not, however, be a repeat performance of last year's Panorama interview that held 23 million view-ers spellbound. repeat performance of last year's Panorama interview that held 23 million viewers spellbound.

For Diana, Princess of Wales, is being brought to the screen courtesy of the satirist and mimic Rory Bremner.

4's controller of entertainment, and she was unlikely to find it huriful.

"I am sure if you asked her what she thought of Rory Bremner's characterisation she would probably say she falls about laughing," he said. Budget, people will be paying more than at the last



The Queen and the Queen of Hearts (aka Rory Bremner)

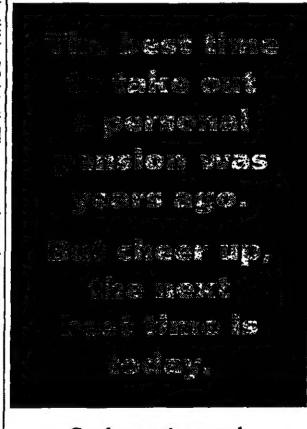
Although the spoof broadcast may prove embarrassing for the princess, Stuart Cosgrove, Channel 4's controller of entertain

Bremner has managed to perfect his impression of the princess, while he has admitted defeat in mimicking Camilla Parker Bowles. John Willis, director of programmes, said: "The portrait will be perfectly affectionate." The princess has not been

alerted to the plan, but heen alerted to the plan, but Mr Willis said: "It will be pretty difficult to compare this with some of the things that have happened to her

over recent years."
In recent years Channel
4's alternative Christmas
Day broadcast has featured veteran gay campaigner Quentin Crisp, animal lover Brigitte Bardot and American civil rights

If the Queen does decide to tune into Channel 4 at 3pm, she will still be able to catch her own perfor-mance. "We always loyally show the real speech later in the day," Mr Willis said.



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Tax rises 'tot up to £39bn'

authoritative source, the by the rises since the 1983 House of Commons Library. The figure will play a key part in Labour campaigning in the run-up to the general Labour has for months been claiming the Conservatives have made 22 tax rises since

AX rises since the last general election total £39 billion, according to an nyestigation by a neutral and

ingly, made no attempt to cost them until now. Alan Milburn, a Labour Treasury spokesman, declared last night: "The Tories' broken tax promises have cost people a fortune. Even if the Chancellor lowers taxes in the Endert neuron will be review.

Obituaries 10 Crossword 15; Weather 16; Radio 16; TV 16

Sketch

Jargoning them into submission



T'LL be like Bradman playing cricket on the village green," said one Tory left winger. He was predicting Ken Clarke's appearance at the dispatch box yesterday, when the Chancel-lor was called to face the angry Eurosceptics. It wasn't like that: Mr Clarke was more like Geoffrey Boycott, offering us interminable boredom interrupted by outbursts of irratio-

Up in the distinguished visitors' gallery sat Sir James Goldsmith, looking like Erns Stavro Blofeld, a little puzzled that Michael Caine seemed to have landed the part of Bond. Next to Sir James was a dark and sinister figure, who turned out to be Patrick Robertson, the famous

One expected Sir James to lean over the gallery, stroke his platinum cat, and mur-mur. "I myself abhor violence in all its forms, Mr Clarke, but my associate Mr Robertson is less fastidious . . ."

As it was, the Dear Leader and President for Life of the Referendum Party favoured two expressions: a smile which played on his lips like a crocodile after a good lunch. and a sort of exaggerated, cyn ical mirth. He alternated between these while watching the Chancellor speak.

Mr Clarke blamed the press notably the Sunday Times, which had misrepresented sels. Who had done the leaking? Commissioner Neil Kinnock was his guess, and he would not be sending any more confidential policy papers to that office again and apart from the birth of his grandchild, that was possibly the best news Mr Kinnock has had all year.

It is the nature of the big parliamentary rows that they take place in reverse. Where-as the disputes the rest of us

have start off as little spats and develop into something unpleasant, MPs begin at a fever pitch of rage and then calm down. So it was yesterday. And you can be pretty sure that the actual debate will-be as exciting as a milky drink at

For the time being, Mr Clarke jargoned them into submission. He gave them the Euro-zone, the Non-Euro Area Member State and the Stabil-ity Pact. He threatened them with the ERM Mark II. He waved the Ecofin EMU in their faces. When they thought they might have got him backing into the ropes, he rallied to hit them with "a de-

bate on a forthwith motion". And then there was the dreaded "scrutiny reserve" ("You might appreciate this Cheval Blanc '64 from my cellars, Mr Bond. Now, I don't know if the term 'scrutiny reserve' means anything to you?" "Not even you, Goldsmith, would dare . . . ")

At times he was unnerv-ingly frank. He wouldn't want to pay any of the proposed new fines. "We don't want any BSE financial obligations falling on a country already trying to on a country an excessive defi-cit." he said. He left the sceptic Bill Cash spluttering with the simple line: "My memory's go-ing, I've forgotten your

Labour decided it was time to weigh in as well. Peter Shore asked whether he wanted to see a future British government hamstrung like a rate-capped council. Tony Benn warned that single currencies did not necessarily mean political unity. The dinar hadn't held Yugoslavia together, nor had the dollar prevented the American civil war. (Nor, you might add, does Monopoly money stop people from occasionally up-ending the board.) After 80 minutes the Chan-

cellor was released. "Sorry to be so long, Ken," said the Speaker, sympathetically. After all that the Budget will seem agreeable. "Fifty pence off beer, why the hell not?" he is perhaps muttering to him-

Brief Lives, Steve Bell and Simon Hoggart's satirical look back at the political year (Methuen, £9.99), is now in all good bookshops, and some second-

Co-pilot identifies men Comoros police holding after crash in which 125 died as innocent passengers

Ethiopian hijackers 'may have all died'

WO men held for hijacking an Ethiopian Airlines plane that crashed, killing more than 120 people, may have been innocent passeners and could be released, the government of the Comoro Islands said yesterday. The two were arrested at a

hospital on Saturday, but a government spokesman, Dgouma Ibrahim, said the plane's co-pilot, Yonas Mekuria, has told police that they were not the hijackers. Mr Ibrahim said the men could be set free as early as they are indeed innocent pas-sengers from Congo and Dji-bouti, as they say. This would

mean all three hijackers died in Saturday's crash. Terror struck 20 minutes after take-off from the Ethiopian capital, Addis Ababa,

when hijackers told crew they had a bomb. The three men were in control of the plane for four hours before it crash landed after running out of

teams dragged a large section of the wreckage of the Ethioplan Airlines jet wich crashed on Saturday out of the azure waters of the Galawa Beach resort at the north end of Grande Comore island yesterday. Passengers' bodies were still buckled into their seats. Workers wore masks against the smell in the tropical heat as the middle section of fuselage was pulled on to



the cockpit, was underwater. Ethiopian Airlines said that

Saturday have died, raising

the death toll to 125.

were taken to a makeshift | tion of the plane which, with morgue in a warehouse.

The Comoran police pulled out one more body yesterday morning - that of a woman in shorts, still clutching a small rucks:

Police said some bodies

planned to crash the jet into a racked beachside hotel. Survivors recalled the moment when the plane hit the water.

One of two British women who survived, Katherine Hayes, 30, from London, said: "All this stuff started pouring over my face. I thought, Tm going to drown . . . I've got to free myself.' Then I saw the

sun shining through the water and I swam and swam." Britons feared dead are Tony Charters, aged 46, an aid worker based in Ethiopia, Andy Meakins, aged 43, from Andy Meakins, ages es, irdin Beckenbam, a charity worker, and a Manchester-born Jour-nalist, Brian Tetley, aged 51. Rekha Mirchandani, aged

two of the 52 people pulled alive from the wreckage on 29, a housewife from Bombay, and her 4-year-old daughter,

ing claims that the hijackers | ing through a broken window

her towards the window. Everybody was crying. I was bleeding from this cut on my head," Ms Mirchandani said. "We must have done something good in our lives, or maybe we will do something good in the future — that is

why God saved us. Ethiopian Airlines made preparations for a mass repatriation of the victims to Addis Ababa, but their efforts were hindered by a lack of coffins on the Muslim islandchain 190 miles east of the African mainland. Muslims bury their dead in shrouds and cremation is not allowed. India's honorary consul had asked if Hindus could be cremated, but the request was

McAliskey daughter wanted

Germany seeks extradition of Roisin over mortar attack on Osnabrück

ireland Correspond

DAUGHTER of the former Nationalist Bernadette McAliskey is fac-ling extradition to Germany today on terrorist charges, including attempted murder in connection with an IRA mortar attack of a British army base earlier this year. Roisin McAliskey, a 25year-old graduate of Queen's University Belfast, has been

uestioned by the RUC under anti-terrorist legislation at Castlereagh holding centre for the past six days. Yesterday an extradition varrant was sworn at Bow Street magistrates court in

London and carried to Bel-fast. She is expected to be flown to London later today after spending one more night in Castlereagh. Ms McAliskey is wanted in Germany on charges of atsion of explosives. She is accused of being one of at

least five members of an IRA

If extradited to Germany she will be the first person to face charges in connection with the Osnabrück attack and the first in mainland Europe since the end of the IRA ceasefire in February.



Roisin (right) and Bernadette McAliskey carrying the coffin of the INLA's Dominic McGlinchey PHOTOGRAPH: CREEN ROOMEL

mortar attack on the army's barracks in Osnabrück in

The vehicle used to launch the attack was traced back to in touch with us regarding Ireland. Police have also their inquiries into serious issued an arrest warrant for a sterrorist crime in their juris-Scottish man, who is believed diction. A female is in custo-to be on the run in the Irish dy in Northern Ireland and an

"The German authorities are

home when first contacted be-

The woman's mother, the former Mid-Ulster MP Bernadette McAliskey, said she could make no immediate comment from her Co Tyrone

Nobody was injured in the Republic. Michael Dickson, bombing when three mortars fired from a van fell short and failed to explode.

Republic. Michael Dickson, extradition warrant has been raided by police. Later she thorities in London today in failed to explode.

The RUC said yesterday: relation to the matter." lawyer has been presented with any information about the existence of the warrant. I don't know what the position is until I know the warrant

Mrs McAliskey added: "I guys lost".

daughter," and insisted she had never been in Germany. Bernadetta McAliskey represented Mid-Ulster between 1969 and 1974, winning a byelection while still a 22-yearold student and retaining the seat at the following general election.

The then Labour Home Secretary, James Callaghan, spoke of her brilliance but his replacement, Reginald Maudling, was punched by her in

Bernadette McAliskey was sentenced to six months' prison for incitement to riot and obstruction and disorderly behaviour for her activities in Londonderry's

In 1981 she and her husband narrowly escaped death when they were each shot several times in a loyalist gun attack on her home at Derry-

lenghan. Co Tyrone. In 1994 she carried the coffin of the murdered INLA leader Dominic McGlinchey and gave the graveside ora-tion in which she called him "the finest republican of them all". Both of her daughters, Roisin and Deirdre, also carried the coffin.

Both daughters followed their mother by studying at Queen's. Contemporaries of Roisin recall her as passion-

language.
Roisin appeared to demonstrate that she shares her mother's jaundiced views on the peace process last year when, at a republican public meeting in west Belfast, she angrily attacked the media from the floor.

Mrs McAliskey is on record as saying that the IRA ceasefire of August 1994 meant that the war is over and the good

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Review

A thoroughly modern Hamlet

Lyn Gardner

BETTER late than never. The Edinburgh Festival performances of Robert Lepage's one-man show were cancelled when part of the stage machinery failed to work, but now, three months late, he is up to his tricks again with a visually beguiling oneman Hamlet that would make even Des Lynam ask "How did

he do that?" Most actors want to get inside Hamlet; Lepage worms his way right into the Prince of Denmark's brain. Elsinore is not just the forbidding. granite ramparts of the Dan-ish castle but here, with a lit-tle technological wizardry, ap-pears to dissolve and reappear before your very eyes. There are times when you think.
"Hell, why didn't he just have
done with it, and make a movie of Hamlet rather than a theatre piece that looks like a film." But that is presumably part of the point: this is a thoroughly contemporary Hamlet, the Prince Shakespeare might have written if he'd had access to 20th-century technology to combine with a 17th-century sensibility. This is an Elsinore that everyone knows, not just a place but a state of mind where Lepage is a free-falling spinning Alice who pops up in the nightmarish Wonderland of his own distorting madness clubs, Polonius the joker in the pack, Ophella looks like a

Hamlet's father as a lute, the Queen a recorder and Claudius as a French horn.

Lepage plays all the charac-ters. There are moments when one is reminded of Alec Guinness in drag in Kind Hearts and Coronets. It is not a characterful performance but it has a technical bravura: the final swordfight is brilliantly done and there is a lovely mo-ment when you see him in the library as Polonius apparent-ly talking to his own (Ham-let's) legs. This kind of thing is clever but also purposeful, underlining the idea of the play as being about a man im-prisoned in his own head, who doesn't engage with the world but talks only to himself.

But in the end, that is proba-bly also the problem about a piece that is too often rich in image and short on meaning and emotionally icy. Like all too many plays about other plays it is reductive, self-obsessional and knotty. Hamlet is like a globe. Lepage turns it into a marble. Small is

not always so interesting.

None the less, it has a highly developed sense of playfulness and fun. Lepage has a cheeky wit — anyone that dares to play every character in Ham-let and all in the same idiosyn considerable nerve — and you get the feeling he does not expect this box of tricks to be taken too seriously. It is an and the use of space in which tilting panels and sleight of hand deceive the eye. But they never pierce the heart. For all its self-conscious humour it is wizardry without enchantment, stage management, not large doily drowning in a flood theatre. The play, alas, is definitely not the thing.

World's jobless Top US cardinal preaches new total 1 billion

Seumas Milne and Sarah Ryle

ORLDWIDE unem-ployment has reached one billion, representing crisis levels not experi-enced since the depths of the 1930s depression, the Interna-tional Labour Organisation

reports today.

The latest figure is up more than a fifth from the 1994 estimate of 820 million, and means that almost one in three of the global labour force is now out of work or underemployed.
The ILO report blames the industrialised countries for

sacrificing the goal of full em-ployment to anti-inflation pol-icy and feeding the swelling tide of joblessness, which is described as "neither politically nor socially sustainable". In an explosive survey likely to alienate the ILO fur-ther from critical Western governments — including that of Britain — the Genevabased United Nations body

also argues that the growing numbers of "working poor" will aggravate economic problems and social unrest.
The ILO calls for an international commitment to reversing the escalating trend of mass unemployment and rejects the assumption that jobless growth — when an economy expands, but jobs are not created — is inevitable. It blames lower growth rates in industrialised

countries since the oil crisis of 1973, slow adjustment of wage levels to declining worker productivity and widespread casualisation of labour for the crisis.

Michel Hansenne, ILO director general, says: "It is not just heartless but pernicious to assume that nothing cious to assume that nothing can be done to remedy unemployment, that so-called jobless growth is the best that can be hoped for in an increasingly competitive economy or that current rates of unemployment somehow constitute a natural and inevitable outcome of market

forces."
The report's author, Eddy Lee, said it is possible to pro-mote growth while at the same time keeping a check on inflationary pressure by coordinating wage rises and providing independent, consensual economic forecasts credible to financial markets. Mr Lee also urged an over-haul of benefit programmes and pointed to the system in the Czech Republic which has benefited from starting with a clean sheet. The country now has an unemployment rate of 3 per cent, lower than that of the United States, which is

in an expanding but low-inflation economy. The report shows at least 34 million people in the world's richest nations which belong to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and De-velopment are jobless. Unem-ployment rose to an average 11.3 per cent in European Union countries last year --compared with 2 per cent in

also praised for creating jobs

Although unemployment declined slightly in the central and eastern European economies, it still remains in double figures, and rose in the former Soviet Union. It also rose in most Latin

ADAM and Eve may not have been human but some lower life form, the United States' most senior Roman Catholic, Cardinal John O'Connor of New shippers at St Patrick's cathedral. In the first formal clarifi-

firmly in his Sonday ser-mon to the papal line that Creation was still an act of

divine will.
"It is possible that when the two persons we speak of as Adam and Eve were created, it was in some other form, and God breathed life into them, breathed a soul

lower animal." The Roman Catholic

win's theory of evolution. But the 1950 encyclical of Pope Pius XII. Humani Generis, warned that it was a tool deployed by atheists. Pope John Paul's state

ment last month foreshadowed the cardinal's explicit acceptance that humanity may have emerged from lower life forms.

The new Catholic stance comes as religious conserva-

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Rising pupil exclusions costly in terms of both cash and justice Donald MacLood

of rumpled material. The

dumb scene is acted out with

CHILDREN expelled from school are costing an estimated £48 million a year, says a report published yesterday by the Commission for Racial

terparts to be excluded, the commission is concerned that the rising level of exclusions is leading to injustice as well

as proving expensive.
A total of 13,419 children
were permanently excluded
in England in 1995/96, an 8 per cent increase on the pre-vious year, said Carl Parsons With boys of Afro-Carib-With boys of Afro-Carib-Of Canterbury Christ Church College, author of Exclusion

labour for the crisis.

The ILO argues that unemployment is the most important challenge facing industrialised and developing ment exists on a massive scale in the developing world. bean origin six times more College, author of Exclusion trialised and d likely than their white counfrom School the Public Cost.

papal line on evolution

Martin Walker in Washington

cation of the reformed doc-trine since the Pope's stun-ning statement last month that "new knowledge leads us to recognise that the theory of evolution is more than just a hypothesis", Cardinal O'Connor stuck

into them — that's a scieniffic question," he said.
"Perhaps the spirit of
God that breathed forth life
into the Earth ... was a

church has never formally condemned Charles Dar-

tives, mainly from the evan gelical movement, campaign for divine creation to be taught in US schools.

Two award-

authors have

enmeshed in

Channel bust-

Seaton, Dan Glaister and Alex Duval **Smith** report on how claims

of misogyny and racism and threats of

legal action have rocked the French literary world

winning

become

a cross-

Matt

up over plagiarism.



BEN OKRI. 37, was born in Minna, Nigeria, and spent part of his childhood in London. He wrote his first novel, Flowers and Shad-University of Essex. His ston of an Africa slipping between nightmare and reality. His most recent Booker Prize for his novel the Booker Prize for his novel novel, Dangerous Love, was published earlier this year.



born in Cameroon and Prix du Roman de l'Acade-moved to France at 17. An imie Française for Les Hon-

guilty of "partial counter-feiting" of US author Howactivist for women's rights nears Perdus (Lost Hon-in Africa, the 35-year-old ours), her seventh novel. in Petit Prince de Believille

Famished Road feeds French book fever

publicity-hungry Booker Prize could have come up with the scandal that rocked the French literary world yesterday. Calixthe Beyala, winner of one of the country's most prestigious prizes, was accused by a leading literary critic of plagiarising Ben Okri's 1991 Booker winner, The Famished Road.

misogyny and racism.

Ms Beyala denied plagia rism yesterday, saying: "I But Pierre Assouline, edinow Ben Okri well. We lived in the same world and lived for snotting plagia. come from the same poor background." She claimed such borrowings were comand threatened to sue the

Mr Okri, however, retorted: "I don't buy that. It's not part of the literary tradition... I want people to read me, but I don't want people to steal from my work." The Nigerian-born writer said staff at his French publisher Juliand. French publisher, Juliard, were scanning the two texts. "If there is a case, then it's a matter for the courts."

Ms Beyala, a Franco-Cameroonian writer who The Famished Road.

The evidence: seven passages, read out on prime time television, and the use of the word "testicles" by (£11,680) Grand Priz duone author, and "genitals" Roman last month for her by the other. The allegations led to threats of legal Perdus (Lost Honours). action and charges of Critics had praised it as "a misogyny and racism. new beginning for African Ms Beyela denied plagia liferature".

But Please Assouline, edi-

fation for spotting plagia-rism, had other ideas. In May, Ms Beyala had been successfully sued of "par-tially counterfeiting" a novel by the US ambor.

On Sunday, Mr Assouline went on television to denounce the prize-winning book. Ms Beyala, res-ponded, accusing him of miogyny and racism.

Yesterday he said: "The Academic Française should have been more careful in the light of Belaya's earlier conviction. They voted for her as one but I think they

are going to regret it."

The prize jury received advice from several quarters that they should be circonspect, but appeared to have satisfied themselves that Ms Beyala's work was original. The scademic has made

no official comment, but there is no doubt that it demicians were really aware of what was going on in the world of literature, they would not have stumbled But Ms Beyala continued promptly went to ground.

her counter-attack yester-day, claiming: "They're try-

ing to destroy me."

Mr Okri dismissed the charge of racism. "It's nothing to do with race.

The French have honoured black writers in the past. It's a simple case; if it's proven, on textual grounds, then I suppose she'll have to run the legal gauntlet, deliver an apology and delete those passages." The Academic Française

is not the first prize-winning body to reward an alleged case of plagiarism.
Lost year Australia's mestigious Miles Franklin
Award for Literature was there is no doubt that it comes as a severe blow in an institution which regards itself as the guardian of the French language.

Wenn by Helen Demidenko for her tale of her experience as a Ukranian Jew. However her book, The Hand That Signed The Paper, bore striking similar won by Helen Demidenko larities to passages published by the Australian author, Thomas Keneally.

Ms Demidenko was revealed to be Helen Darville, from Scunthorpe. She Cribbing or coincidence?

Calixthe Beyala, Les Honneurs Perdus: His wife was not listening. She grabbed him by his pants and dragged him along. He attempted to free himself from this iron grip which, apart from his pants, squeezed his testicles.

'After a thousand attempts to free himself manually from the grip of the fat woman, the doctorpharmacist became filled with rage and began to proffer insults which no one understood: moramus! Cretin

Microbe of a coefficient of three!" Then to the astonishment of all, he hit his wife.

"A few men hurried to

Calixthe Beyala Les honneurs

perdus Albin Michel

the rescue but the fat woman was faster than

they. "She grabbed the pharmacist by the crotch. He screamed and without giving him time to react, she lifted him on to her shoulders and send him flying into the

EN OKRI

Ben Okri, The Famished Road:

The woman stopped listening. When we went past the crowd we saw that she was dragging him about, yanking him around by the pants. He kept trying to free himself from her masterful grip on

his trousers, a grip which

parts. He tried to prise her fingers apart and when that failed be took to hitting her hands, screaming insults at everyone.

"Then, suddenly, to our astonishment, the woman lifted him up by the pants and threw him to the ground. The crowd yelled. The man flailed, got up, shouted and huffed. Then he pounced on her. lashing at her face. Dad started towards him, but his rescue attempt was cut short. The madame grabbed the bad loser's crotch and he screamed so loud that the crowd fell

Then, with grunt, she lifted him on her shoulders, turned him round once, showing his mightiness to the sky, and dumped him savagely on the hard earth.'

OJ changes his story over key element of alibi

Christopher Reed Los Angeles

J SIMPSON faced ques-tions yesterday about why he changed his story over his alibi on the night his ex-wife was murdered.

During the criminal trial last year, in which he was acquitted of stabbing to death Nicole Brown Simpson, 35, and her friend Ronald Coldman, 25, he had explained that he cut his finger rum-maging for a cell phone in his Ford Bronco just before going

But during his second day of giving evidence in the civil suit against him. Daniel Petrocelli, counsel for the Goldman family brandished telephone records and insisted that Mr Simpson had called his former girlfriend, model Paul Barbieri, at 10.03pm on the night of the murders, from his cell phone while standing outside the

Mr Simpson initially told police that he called from the vehicle, which he also denied using that night. The two were killed some time be-

Nicole's house, a five-minute drive from the Simpson mansion. He now claims he removed the phone from the vehicle and called from his garden. Mr Petrocelli asked: "So

your story now is that you didn't make this call from the Bronco? You're now saying you took it out of the Bronco hours before?" Mr Simpson replied: "Correct." Mr Petrocelli: "You don't

want it to be there [in the Bronco]. If it's there at 11, then it's there at 10. And if it's

night in June 1994, at | because you're in the Bronco | Goldman, who came upon the and not at home [as he Mr Simpson, who kept his temper during Mr Petrocelli's intense questioning, replied:

"That's not true." Earlier Mr Simpson denied receiving a telephone mes-sage from Ms Barbieri end-ing their relationship. The families of Nicole and Ronald

Goldman argue that he was upset and enraged by being dumped by Ms Barbieri, which he blamed on Nicole. He went round to his ex-wife's then it's there at 10. And if it's house in a highly emotional there at 10 it ruins your alibi state, killed her, and then

scene by accident.

If Ms Barbieri did indeed end the affair that night, it makes a mockery of the con-

stant use of her name during

the criminal trial.
It was suggested then, as a defence against Mr Simp-son's alleged resentment against Nicole, that Ms Bar-bieri maintained a loving relationship with him, and was loyally waiting for his name to be cleared. Mr Simpson acknowledged that the two had broken up only after the acquittal when he her home in Florida.

other witness in both trials, limousine driver Allen Park Mr Park had told of con-stantly ringing the doorbell outside an apparently empty

house after arriving to take Mr Simpson to the airport for a late flight to Chicago.

Mr Park testified that Mr Simpson had explained the dark house and his inattention to the boll by servine bedark house and his maden-tion to the bell by saying he was sleeping. Now he denied making that remark and said he had been in the shower between 10.35 and 10.40 when

Grocers plan airlift over blockade as drivers face tear gas threat

continued from page 1 Association said many small businesses faced a catastrophe, which could cost them millions of pounds if the dispute was prolonged. It feared they would face a bitter fight for compensation.

The European Transport Commissioner, Neil Kinnock, admitted there was little he could do under European Union law to intervene in a national strike. But he was in touch with the French authorities. He pointed out that the EU was reviewing whether to strengthen its whether to strengthen its for higher pay and the right rules to ensure that drivers to retire at 55.

Yesterday's trouble began when 20 British drivers stranded in Calais said they would not move until the They backed down to allow traffic through when the French police arrived after several tense minutes.

One driver said: "The port of Calais is closed. Why should we be stranded and tourists allowed to get through? Why should the French strand us and not everyone else?" French drivers are pressing



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'A ban should be a last not a first resort. No person in theology who has seen the film said it was blasphemy. People should be able to make up their own minds' Nigel Wingrove



Director Nigel Wingrove, who has been fighting for seven years to have the ban lifted, said he would not take the case further

Euro-court backs film ban

Dan Glaister and Clare Dyer

HE law of blasphemy, which can be traced back to the Middle Ages, was ruled to apply to contemporary Britain yes-terday when the European Court found that British film censors had not breached the European Convention on Human Rights when it invoked the law to ban Visions of Ecstasy, an 18-minute film about a num's erotic visions of Christ on the cross.

the 16th century Carmelite

num, St Teresa of Avila, em-bracing Christ on the cross, was refused a certificate seven years ago by the British Board of Film Classification. The director, Nigel Win-grove, appealed, arguing that the ban not only interfered with his right to freedom of speech but was also discriminatory, because it did not cover the many other reli-gions practised in the UK.

The last publicly funded prosecution for blasphemy was in 1922. The most recent prosecution was brought by the morality campaigner Mary Whitehouse against first, resort. No theological

Mr Wingrove, represented has said it was blasphemous. by Geoffrey Robertson QC. The worst comment was from received the support of the bishop of Gloucester, who European Commission on Human Rights, but its support was overturned yester-day by the European Court of Justice in Strasbourg.

The decision, by seven votes to two, upholds the rights of national authorities to protect the religious sensi-bilities of their citizens, notwithstanding the convention's guarantee of freedom of

Gay Times magazine in 1976. | person who has seen the film

said some people might find it offensive."

If Mr Wingrove had wor the Government would have had to change the law. Tim Sackville, junior Home Office minister, said: "It vindicates the BBFC's decision to refuse to issue a certificate for a video which would break the criminal law and offend millions of people. The decision sends a clear message to the producers and distributors of such material and shows that this country's strict classifica-

ito the board at the same time as Scorsese's Last Temp-tation of Christ and Madon-na's Like a Virgin video. I was an easy target. I had no idea that seven years later I would be reacting to a judgment of the European Court."
He said he had sold video rights to the film to Europe,

Mr Wingrove said he would not take the case further. 'I

appened to submit the film

toughest in Europe — is an effective safeguard for the public from this kind of video."

Mr Wingrove said he would minds up for themselves." The court accepted that respect for the religious feelings of believers can move a state legitimately to restrict the publication of provocative portrayals of objects of reli-

The application of the law in Mr Wingrave's case was

"intended to protect the He said he had sold video rights to the film to Europe, Japan and the US. "Britain now has the heavlest censorship in the western world. I don't think that's anything aim of the ban less legitimate.

A detail from Bernini's

Stagg court plea to clear name

OLIN Stagg, who was acquitted of the murder of Rachel Nickell on Wimble don Common in 1992, would welcome a civil court action against him to clear his name. In an interview tonight on ITV's Cook Report, he says: "I would welcome a civil case. If the Nickell family was convinced I was innocent that would make me more at ease

with my life. I have plenty of sympathy for them. I would like to meet the family and look them straight in the eye and tell them plainly I'm not gullty of this murder. I did not take their daughter's life."

For the programme, Mr Stagg, aged 33, underwent a lie detector test and responded to 60 questions he had refused to answer when crossexamined by police investi-gating the murder. After two gating the militar. After two
days of questioning, polygraph expert Jeramy Bairrett
concluded be was not guilty.
Mr Stagg's wife Diane, aged
28, said that since the acquittal they have been targeted by
vigilantes and subjected to verbal and physical attacks. "Since Colin was cleared, we have become virtual prison-ers in our home," she said. . Mr Stagg agreed to undergo

hypnosis, and take a "truth drug". But after five hours, leading hypnotist Derek Crussell concluded he had "no in-tention of allowing himself to be hypnotised". He said: Hypnosis is a co-operative thing. He did not allow himself to be hypnotised. Afterwards he told me he didn't believe he could be hypnotised: he said hypnosis was only for weak-willed people'. He said T've got a very strong mind'." Mr Crussell said he was astonished by Mr Stagg's clinical, analytical manner. He ap-peared calm and in control. "He was not willing to let himself go out of control. Perhaps that's why he didn't want to take the truth drug." Mr Stagg said he would not take the truth drug due to health concerns. A heavy

drinker and smoker, he said: I was dead against it because of the very fact of having chemicals in my body." The interviewer, Roger Cook, asked Mr Stagg about similarities between his violent sexual fantasies, as de-

scribed in letters to an undercover policewoman, and the murder Mr Stagg replied that the murder was carried out by another man with "identical fantasies".

The case against him col-lapsed when the court refused to hear police evidence based

Genes favour pear shaped women

OMEN with fat bot-toms and thighs should revel in their shape rather than fight against it — they are less likely to suffer heart disease and other illuesses, researchers said yesterday.

The doctors, who are study-ing the role of genes in the development of adult illness, development of adult illness, are confirming that the traditional pear shaped British woman — with more weight in the thighs and bottom than the stomach — is less likely to be a candidate for diabetes, high blood pressure and heart disease than apple-shaped

hospital, London, have been looking at the illnesses suf-fered by both identifical and non-identical twins to try to eparate the roles played by enes and environment.

diabetes, said the total amount of fat and the areas where it was distributed was60 per cent dictated by genetic factors over which

people had no control.
"Fat around the tummy is a risk factor for high blood pressure, diabetes and heart bottom and thighs protects against these diseases," Dr

Samaras said. She explained that stomach fat was of a different composition and was released more quickly into the bloodstream. causing a rise in blood fats.

The fat on the thighs and bottom was stable and was not constantly released into the bloodstream. Fat in the thighs and bottom was neceswomen, who carry most of sary for women because it their fat around their stomachs.

Researchers from the twin should not try to lose this fat, Tim Spector, head of the twin unit, said the findings

did not mean people should become fatalistic about body fore give up trying to eat heathly and take more exerhas been to look at the effects cise. However, the genetic cards were stacked more the distribution of body fat in 350 female twins. Kathy Samares, an expert than others to maintain a in risk factors for obeeity and healthy weight.

Opinion

Imaginative work unlikely to be barred elsewhere

Derek Malcolm

NIGEL Wingrove's Visions of Ecstasy is a film about the shading of religious into sexual ecstasy which might well get a prize if shown at a short film festival. It might also cause controversy. But it is unlikely to be banned any-where in Europe but Britain.

It purports to be about the state of mind of St Teresa of Avila as a troubled young novice. It has two other characters: the Psyche of St Teresa and Christ on the Cross. St Teresa, having plerced her hand and licked the blood, writhes on the ground before being seen tied by the hands

with a rope from the ceiling and fondled by the Psyche. At the same time she be-strides Christ in her imagination, lying on a grounded cross. She kisses him, being kissed in return. This will un-



A scene from Nigel Wingrove's film in which St Teresa of

mous to some and porno-But Wingrove — aided by excellent camerawork from Ricardo Coll — is less explicit than any pornographer might wish and certainly less so than most soft porn videos that have received certificates from the British Board of Film

His purpose is clear: to make an imaginative short film which reflects physically the struggle in the young

On this level the film works well, borrowing techniques from classical masters like Carl Dreyer in The Passion of Joan of Arc and creating a

of repression and longing. If this film is to be refused a cer-

tificate, it is lucky for Ken Russell that The Devils is not seeking one at present, and for Polish director Walerian Borowczyk, whose Immoral Tales and Behind Convent Walls might now be refused one. All three films were slightly cut but allowed com mercial openings here.

Visions of Ecstacy, which carries the same themes to a ronclusion, is unlucky to be made at a more fearful and possibly hypocritical time, as evinced by the fuss over David Cronenberg's Crash.

Opinion

None of this is visionary or ecstatic - just plain daft

Alice Thomas Ellis

T'S a distasteful, offensive film—after all. "At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow," runs the hymn. I'm giad we have blasphemy laws and I'm giad they were shown to have some teeth yesterday but they picked he wrong film to make a fuse about; it gives the film a significance of which it is

entirely unworthy.
It's a completely daft film;
it was supposed to be about
St Teresa of Avila but it isn't. It's about a girl in a lot of make-up and not a lot of of make-up and not a for or clothes (certainly not a Carmelite habit — in both senses of the word) sticking nails in her hands and hanging on a hook being fondled by another girl. A lot of flesh and a lot of blood

some point she knocks over a chalice and licks up the contents. One cannot imagine why. None of all this is either visionary or

Before I saw this film. I was ready to rush to the defence of St Teresa of Avila, but it's just silly sade mesochism and so inept, it should just be ignored. It makes out St Teresa was an hysterical lesbian nitwit— I'm not angry, I'm just

St Teresa, a woman of superb common sense and wit, would probably have considered it beneath her

Once when a man praised the beauty of her feet, she laughed and told him to take a good look for he would never see them again. Nor was she sentimental, certainly not about women. "Experience has taught me what a house

full of women is like. God preserve us from such a Of course I find this kind of material offensive; it's cheap, but what can I do? It should never have been

but not a modicum of sense or purpose. Wearing little but a silly expression, she Alice Thomas Ellis is a Catholic commentator and Derek Malcolm is the Mackay takes Britain's case to Europe

Ministers want more weight given to UK law and court rulings by judges in Strasbourg. Clare Dyer reports

the European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg yesterday in an attempt to persuade them to give more weight to British law and court rulings.
The move follows a series of

cases in which Britain has been found guilty of violating

Human Rights.

Ministers feel judges have not given due weight to Britain's laws and traditions in interpreting the convention, and are trying to persuade other members of the Council of Europe to support them. Lord Mackay insisted that

judges and representatives of other states were receptive to his message, but officials said Britain was out on a limb in sceking to change the workings of the court.
Under Protocol 11 to the

convention the two tier, part time court will cease to exist

HE Lord Chancellor, and be replaced by a single Lord Mackay, met judges and officials at member states ratify the protocol. Britain is seizing the opportunity in the run-up to the change to try to shape a

court more to its liking.

John Wadham, director of erty, said there would be a constitutional crisis if Lord

Britain is trying to shape a court more to its liking

Mackay sought to persuade British judges to find ways of ings against the Government. Lord Mackay denied he was seeking to influence the Stras-bourg judges and insisted he was merely trying to secure the best possible procedures for the new court.

the deaths of three IRA mem-bers on Gibraltar. It ruled by 10 votes to nine that the SAS shootings breached the European Convention on Human Rights and ordered Britain to pay their relatives' legal costs of nearly £40,000.

Ten days ago the Home Office was forced to free the Sikh activist Karamjit Singh Chahal, accused by the Gov-ernment of involvement in court ruled that his deporta-tion would put him at risk of torture in India.

After the Gibraltar ruling ministers considered opting out or refusing to renew the right of individual petition — which allows individuals to take cases against govern-ments to Strasbourg — but they decided to fight from

Hence Lord Mackay's visit to Strasbourg this week. The reform package the Govern-ment is touting includes in-formal vetting of judges before appointment.
Each of the 40 Council of Europe states nominates one of appreciation"—the extent

September 1995 and came judge. In the past the names close to pulling out after the have been approved on the Strasbourg court dealt Britanion, but Britain wants each ain a humiliating defeat over others beforehand and to take account of fellow members'

views. Britain is also trying to win changes to the way the judges make their decisions. It wants them to take more notice of domestic laws and traditions when deciding whether a state breached the conven-tion. A memo to member states last spring from the Foreign Secretary, Malcolm Rifkind, citing concern about

'UK out on a limb in trying to change workings of court'

"some recent judgments of the court", says Britain "would like to see certain changes to promote fairness and to gusure that the Strasbourg institutions take all fac-

tors into account".

Government concern fo-

to which states, in the light of different national traditions, should be left to decide for

themselves on economic, moral and social issues. Rolv Ryssdal, 80-year-old president of the court, said in a speech last year. "One form of expression — for example pornography — may be permitted in one country yet forbidden in another, without there necessarily being a violation of the convention." This served to recognise the right of free societies, within limits, to choose for them-selves the human rights poli-cies that best suited them.

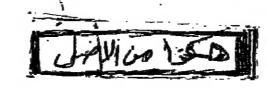
The obvious way of ensur-ing respect for Britain's practices, laws and traditions would be to have human rights cases heard by British judges in British courts — by incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights into domestic law.

Successive governments have redused to do so, and Britain has been dragged before the Strasbourg court more often than any other state apart from Italy and Turkey. It has lost 42 of the 81 Cases brought against it.

Labour has pledged to in-



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Police inquiry on sex claims at top private school

r name,

Geoffrey Gibbs

NE of Britain's oldest and most respected in-dependent schools was rocked yesterday by the second whiff of sexual scandal in recent months after it emerged that the police and social services were conduct-ing a child protection inquiry into complaints about mem-bers of staff.

The investigation, which has been under way for the past two months, is looking into allegations of bullying and improper sexual remarks by two teachers at the 800year-old Wells Cathedral

have been made by parents of teenage girl pupils at the 800pupil co-educational school. A number of parents and former pupils have been in-terviewed. But the inquiry, which is looking at com-



Wells Cathedral School in Somerset where police and social services are conducting a joint child protection inquiry

plaints going back over the formally cautioned in connection with nuisance telephone out choir.

It is any action necessary. It will not be appropriate for any criminal calls to a music teacher.

The school said yesterday it any further comment to be far uncovered any criminal

vestigation was looking into inappropriate behaviour rather than physical abuse. News of the inquiry comes barely a month after the school's head of religious

been co-educational for the past 25 years. About half the pupils are

The school, close to the 14th was co-operating with the incentury cathedral, provides places for children from four to 18, charging about \$1,800 a statement, the headmaster,

John Baxter, and the chair-man of governors, the Very Rev Richard Lewis, said: "The school takes any such

made at this time."
A local shopkeeper, whos 16-year-old daughter and 12-year-old son attend the school, said: "It's a small friendly community. I would have thought it would have come to light very quickly if

so quickly."

The complaints are understood to include an allegation that one of the teachers encouraged teenage girls to sit on his knee during lessons in his private room. The other teacher is said to have made crude remarks to girl pupils and to have bullied them if they complained.

BA 'fall guy' in Virgin airline war sues author

Maggle O'Kane

FORMER public relations consultant for British Airways said "cast to the wolves" as a scapegoat by British Airways in its row with Virgin

the affair, which he says brands him as a peddlar of lies, claims he has already been made the fall-guy for British Airways in its 2500,000 libel defeat by Rich-

On the first day of the High Court case for libel brought by Mr Basham, the court heard that Martyn Gregory, the author of the book Dirty Tricks had described him as a "dodgy PR man" who "dis-seminated lies". Patrick Milmo, QC, repre-

senting Mr Basham, told the court his client had been Brian Basham, who is wrongly accused of spreading suing the author of a book on stories of Mr Branson's gay London nightclub, Heaven and of giving a journalist un-true tip-offs that Virgin was in trouble with its creditors. Mr Milmo said his client rejected such allegations and ard Branson, but he will not | had wanted to set the record straight by helping Mr Greg- ing alternative seats on Brit-



Brian Basham: denies book's claim he peddled lies

ory research his book, which

who worked for BA between BA and Virgin. of the dirty tricks carried out by British Airways, which had included employees masquerading as Virgin staff and pretending that Virgin flights had been cancelled and offer-

had known he would have throughly disapproved."

Mr Milmo said Mr Basham was accused by the book of being ruthless, pugnacious and indulging in the lap of luxury, and of professional

"He can take much of that but not the last - not the accusation that he is a profes "That strikes at the heart of

his job, career and life's Mr Milmo described his cli-ent as the victim of unscrupulous journalists whose tactics

included secretly taping his

appeared in March 1994. In return for that help, Mr stuff that portrayed Mr Ba-sham as the street-fighting damaged Mr Basham's professional reputation by accusing him of issuing. "Notices received to a vivid imagination of issuing." Notices received the calling the book of the court neard Mr Gregory's book was "riveting stuff" that portrayed Mr Basham as the street-fighting son of a butcher but it was the street fighting that he had a street fighting t sional reputation by accusing him of issuing "fictious press tion. Calling the book a releases" and saving his "docu-drama" which was "partly fact and partly fiction", Mr Milmo said it could not be seen as a scholarly record of the dispute between

fore Mr Basham takes the

Mr Gregory and the book's publishers, Little Brown and

Thief who died **'held face down** by four police'

Owen Bowcott

POLICEMAN knelt on the head of Wayne Douglas while he was handcuffed and held face down on the ground by a least London inquest heard yesterday.

At one stage Mr Douglas, unemployed, whose death last year precipitated riots in Brixton, was heard by nearby residents to shout: "I can't breathe, I can't breathe."

The coroner, Sir Montague Levine, told the jury they would be making a night-time visit to the Brixton playwas cornered by at least a dozen officers. The tour stand how close witnesses were to the events in the early hours of December 5 last year, when police pursued Mr Douglas, aged 25, and dis-armed him after he had car-

ried out a robbery. Barlier, PC Stephen Harris said he placed his knee on Mr Douglas's head "to stop him biting an officer" and because he was struggling. Asked whether he had checked to see whether Mr Douglas was still breathing, PC Harris said he had looked to see if his mouth was obstructed.

Last week a witness, Patrick Doyle, had described the police as behaving like a "pack of hyenas going for the kill" as they "rained blows"

down on Mr Douglas.

After being taken to Brixton police station, Mr Douglas was transferred to hospital and died just over an hour after being arrested.

The hearing continues.

A Manchester inquest jury yesterday accused the police of "neglect" after a three-week hearing into the death

of Leon Patterson, aged 31, a burglary suspect who was left naked and handcuffed on a The coroner, Leonard Gor-odkin, described the time Mr Patterson spent in custody in November 1992 as "dreadful", but he told the jury there was no direct link between his

treatment and the cause of his But the jury returned the unusual verdict of misadventure to which neglect contrib-uted. They had earlier heard an advertising campaign. plex metabolic disorder", due to his withdrawal from her-

Inquest, the civil liberties group which supports the relatives of those who have died in custody, welcomed the ver-dict. Deborah Coles, the organisation's director, said: "This is a damning indictment of the treatment Leon received while in the custody

"To leave a human being so obviously in need of care lying naked on a cold stone floor, incoherent and his body covered in injuries for over 2 hours can only be described as cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment."

The inquest was the third inquiry into the death of Mr Patterson. The first inquest was abandoned after a few days. The second, in April 1993, recorded a verdict of un-

News in brief

Ripper may try to stop TV programme

PETER Sutcliffe, known as the Yorkshire Ripper, is consider-ing legal action to prevent transmission of a television docu-mentary that links him to more than 20 unsolved attacks on

The Yorkshire Television programme, Silent Victims, sched-uled for broadcasting in three weeks, includes an interview with West Yorkshire's chief constable, Keith Hellawell, who has talked to the killer in prison at regular intervals for more than 10 years.

Relatives of one murdered Leeds teenager, Debra Schle singer, who was stabbed to death 20 years ago, appealed yester-day to Sutcliffe to "own up, if he did kill her". The 18-year-old, who had no connection with prostitution, died in the garden of her parents' home after returning from an evening out with

Mr Hellawell, who four years ago persuaded Sutcliffe to admit to two failed murder attempts in addition to the 13 murders and seven attempted murders of which he was co victed, makes clear in the programme his belief that the killer has more to tell. He said: "Critics believe that all we're after is convictions. What we're after is the truth." Sutcliffe's solicitor, Kerry MacGill, said yesterday that legal

action against the programme was being considered, and an approach had been made to the Police Complaints Authority about Mr Hellawell's involvement. He added that due to his client's mental condition and consequent treatment "he has no memory of any other offences". — Martin Wainwright

Six-second suspect cleared

A MAN had charges of assault and theft against him dropped yesterday, after he had spent nine months under suspicion as a result of his face being seen on television for six seconds.

Andre Rocha-Mirando, a sound engineer aged 28, agreed to help a friend producing a BBC2 Newsnight edition, by airing his views on the controversial drug cult film Trainspotting. Within days he found himself on an identification parade, Southwark crown

Having seen the programme, Frank Hogart, aged 64, became convinced Mr Rocha-Mirando had been one of two men who attacked him in the doorway of his apartment in central London last February and ripped a \$22,000 diamond-encrusted platinum Rolex watch from his wrist. Mr Hogart, a retired tax lawyer, was also repeatedly punched and kicked, leaving his upper jaw shattered, several ribs broken and his body covered in bruises

After attending the identity parade, Mr Rocha-Mirando, of Islington, north London, made two magistrates court appearances as well as appearing yesterday for trial. But after lengthy discusas well as appearing yesterout; for that, but miler keightly disclus-sions between prosecution and defence counsel and brief cham-bers hearing with the judge, Benjamin Aina, for the Crown, announced he was offering no evidence. Mr Rocha-Mirando received an apology from Judge Jeffrey Rucker.

Five questioned over kidnap

FTVE people arrested after a kidnap victim was freed were still being questioned by detectives in Liverpool last night. The four men, aged between 19 and 33, and a 19 year-old woman, all from the London area, were arrested after armed police used stun grenades to free Craig Allee, aged 21, who has spina bifida, at a hotel in north London on Saturday night. His father, who lives in Halewood, Liverpool, had been telephoned with a 251,000 ransom demand. Police said there was no immediate motive for the kidnap, although inquiries are believed to include the involve

described as "a gentle process of working through events". Members of his family were also interviewed. — Martyn Holsall

Last holiday for sick boy

A TEENAGER who featured in an advertising campaign to raise awareness of muscular dystrophy has died of the disease on the flight home from a holiday at Disneyland. Tom Willett, aged 14, is the last of three brothers to succumb to a rare form of the disc called Duchenne. He had been taken to Florida by the charity Cloud Nine, and died an hour before the plane landed at Gatwick. His brother Barnaby died in April last year, aged 16, and their older brother, Luke, died a year earlier. All three had featured in

was very sick when we took him to America but Cloud Nine exists to give children like Tom a happy last holiday. He really enjoyed the holiday and you would never have guessed he was so ill. When he got on the flight home he seemed bright enough so it was really

Child left with dead mother

A BOY aged three was yesterday in the care of social services after being found alone at home with the body of his mother. Police were called to a house in Ipswich, Suffolk, on Friday. evening and found the body of a 26-year-old woman. They believe she had been dead for about 48 hours.

A police spokesman said the child was now in the care of Suffolk county council's social services department. It was be lieved the death might be drug-related.

Mike Leigh

IN a May 1996 profile of the film director, Mike Leigh, Richard Brooks stated that Mr Leigh had claimed in a press conference to have come from a working class backround. We would like to 1963, recorded a verdict of unlawful killing but was over-turned on appeal on the class doctor's son in a working class area. We apologise to Mr grounds that the jury had Leigh for making him out to be a liar, and for any embarrassmet caused. nake it clear that Mr Leigh never made any such claim. He has always consistently told interviewers that he grew up as a middle class doctor's son in a working class area. We apologise to Mr

Wife who lied for magistrate husband was 'ruled with rod of iron'

AWOMAN who perjured months for drink-driving, and trayed" by her husband and further manifestation of how this man could influence magistrate husband from con- jailed for 15 months for ley. North Yorkshire, and be her." magistrate husband from con-viction on a drink-driving charge was ruled by him with a "rod of iron", the Court of Appeal was told yesterday. Anne Rosomworth, 38, was ailed for nine months in October for perjury and attempt-ing to pervert the course of

been driving the couple's Range Rover when it crashed

justice when she said she had

perjury. Simon Reevell, for Mrs Bo-

somworth, yesterday asked the Appeal Court to reduce her sentence, and allow her to leave prison immediately. Her husband was "a very domineering partner" who was always telling her she you was "thick".

Since being jailed, Mrs Bo-somworth had lost 1 stone 9lb evidence and encouraged har But her husband, John, 50, in weight and rarely slept to try to persuade other without domineering husband", he had been at the wheel Magistrates banned him for 16 night. She felt "totally be driving. "Her perjury was a months.

fore being sent to prison was living in poverty with a

Mr Reevell read out a statement from a friend of the cou-

ple alleging the husband had said: "You are my bloody wife, and you will do as I tell

prepared a special white that tells you all moon the lateract and what it can do for your business. For your free copy,

Lord Justice Swinton Thomas said that although the trial judge did not know about Mrs Bosomworth's home life, lying in court demanded a heavy sentence and he could not release her immediately.

But, having read state-

ments from friends of Mrs Bo-somworth about how she was influenced by her "Victorian, domineering husband", be

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Serbs on the streets



Thousands of students throw eggs and shout abuse at the Serbian television building during a protest in Belgrade yesterdays-ногодин-

Fury at quashed election win

Julian Borger in Belgrade

ORE than 100,000 demonstrators hurled eggs at pub-lic buildings in Belgrade last night after an overwhelming opposition vic-tory in this month's municipal elections was quashed.
It was Serbia's biggest pro-

test since the break-up of Yugoslavia in 1991, but the monolithic Socialist regime med unmoved. The police folded their arms and shrugged. Street sweepers were sent to remove the position and student leaders sticky yellow mess left by the student assault on the city council, the television building and the headquarters of the Socialist Party news-

President Slobodan Milose-

overturning of the election | it would promote a campaign | a meeting of foreign ambassa-results in the courts, contin- of peaceful resistance and dors and Zajedno leaders yeshappened. The state-controlled media have treated the demonstrations of the past few days as minor distrac-

results in the courts, contin-ued to act as if nothing had strikes. The students took an initial step by staging sit-ins in four university faculties.

The former Yugoslav for eign minister and Zajedno adtions, and last night's protest went unreported.
So far the policy of ignoring the mass protests in the first

terday but was disappointed with the result. "They listened but they said very little," he

said."They need Milosevic. He is the guaranteeing the Dayton [Bosnian peace]

nent not been overturned in court. "A lot of people were looking to the West, but a lot of people are now disap-pointed. Where are the elec-'A lot of people were looking to the West, but a lot of people are now disappointed. Where are the election observers now?'

argued last night how to harness the public anger collecting on the street below without sliding into anything more violent than egg-

The Zajedno (Together) covic, Serbia's autocratic ruler, alition, leading the anti-gov- international support for the who has orchestrated the ernment demonstrations, said reform movement, organising is seen as low key.

the problem has worked. Op- | serious attempt to remove the Disappointment with the West runs through opposition ranks. Britain and the US ex-pressed concern when Socialcommunist regime in 1991. "Substantial changes, how-ever fragile, have started for a ist-dominated municipal courts annulled the Novem-ber 17 election results in alecond time," Mr Djukic said. But he was uncertain what Zajedno's strategy would be, apart from ruling out vio-lence. He had hoped to rally most all the 44 municipalities won by the opposition, but the overall Western reaction

The election commissions

"Where are the Western powers?" asked Srdja Popo-vic, who at 24 would have

been the youngest elected member of the Belgrade city council, had his 900-vote ma-

jority over his Socialist oppo-

tion observers now?"
He said the Socialists would

not relax their grip on the big

cities, because they would be the key to controlling next

year's national elections.

have ordered a new round of voting on Wednesday. Mr Djukic said the opposition had not decided how to react, but Mr Popovic was adamant. "Why should I go to a new round of voting when I know that when I win again, the result will be annulled?"

News in brief

Belarus backs Lukashenko

President Alexander Lukashenko claimed a huge vic-tory over parliament, the op-position and the highest court in Belarus yesterday after millions of voters gave him a

But his opponents said the vote was based on massive fraud and the outcome decreed in advance. — Reuter.

Pioneers' journey A pioneering trade convoy arrived back in Gilgit, northern Pakistan, yesterday after a 2,500-mile return journey via Western China to the Central Asian Republics of Kyrghyz-stan and Kazakhstan, writes John McCarthy. Not since the Bolshevik revolution closed Central Asia to the outside world has a trade caravan

velled this route. **Bungled rescue**

Luis Eduardo Iglesias, a pilot whose helicopter crashed, was missing in the mountains of south-west Colombia after falling out of the army helicopter that rescued him, RCN radio said. — Reuter.

Killer recaptured Federal police in Brazil yes-terday recaptured Darci Alves Pereira, the fugitive killer of the rain forest defender Chico Mendes, as he left his sister's house in of Rio de Janeiro. - AP.

Scientologist jailed Jean-Jacques Mazler, the former head of the Church of Scientology, was jailed for 18 months in Lyon yesterday for manslaughter and fraud in a case resulting from a follower's suicide. - Reuter.

Jobs scramble

Around 90,000 people have applied for just 2,500 unskilled jobs in Turkey's social secu-rity institution, the employment minister, Necati Celik, told a news conference yester-day. The staff are to be selected through an examination held in two football stadi-ums in Ankara. — Reuter.

Ebola victim dies

Marilyn Lahana, aged 46, South Africa's first victim of the Ebola virus, has died. regional health authorities announced. She caught the disease after treating a doctor

French drivers up ante with border blockades

Alex Duval Smith in Paris

RENCH lorry drivers demanding improved working conditions appeared to be trying to seal off the main land and sea routes to France yesterday, blockading Calais and Boulogne, and stiffening their action on the borders with Germany, Belgium and Spain.

With negotiations at stale-mate on the ninth day of the protest, the prime minister, Alain Juppé, urged haulage companies to accept some of the drivers' demands for a shorter working week and About 700 British articu-

lated lorries are believed to be trapped in the road blocks, which last night numbered more than 160. Yesterday, British drivers stranded in Calais briefly supported the French action to block HGV access to Channel

rol and factories slowed pro-duction because of compoduction because of compo-nents and fuel shortages, the European transport commis-sioner, Neil Kinnock, stepped

He said that although the commission could not intervene in a national dispute, "some of the concerns that have been expressed by the French truckers involve working conditions, such as driving time, that are the sub-ject of European Union

The protesting French drivers — believed to number up to 50,000 — want their em-ployers to implement Euro-pean agreements on working hours drawn up in 1992. They say many of them work up to 220 hours a month for no extra pay, and that they should receive overtime after

169 hours. A fifth round of talks began last night between the French haulage companies and the five unions backing the proport ferries by stopping cars from boarding.

As forecourts ran out of pet | test, but there was no sign of a breakthrough. Mr Juppe, who has tacitly supported the strikers by ap-

pointing their choice of mediator, Robert Cros, said yester-"The government has done everything to get these talks under way. They must now resume and finish. The communist-dominated

CGT union has called for sympathy strikes tomorrow, and five rail unions and one taxi drivers' union called on members to support the protest.

After earlier concentrating on Spanish border crossings, French drivers yesterday stopped lorries at German borders at Strasbourg, Gamb-shelm, Beinhelm, Lauter-

bourg and Wissembourg.
They intensified their blockades around oil refineries and fuel depots, blocking industrial zones in Le Havre and Rouen in the north-west, and cutting off the last petrol depot still accessible in the Pyrenees-

Corruption trial | 15,000 sue French mail threatens Prodi

John Hooser in Rome

TALYS prime minister, Romano Prodi, slithered nomano Prod., sintheren non a large peeled tomato yesterday, just as he and his ministers were congratulat-ing themselves on manoeu-yring the lira back into the European Union's exchange rate mechanism

A prosecutor in Rome asked for him to be put on trial for abusing his position while he headed the state holding company IRI. The in-dictment request alleges that there were irregularities in the privatisation, three years ago, of the food companies Cirio, Bertolli and De Rica.

News of the move rocked the lira as it began to trade within the limits fixed on Sunday. Share prices and bond futures were also hit. Mr Prodi denied wrong doing and added: "I have faith

in the legal system."

Mr Prodi, who took office in May, is a former Christian Democrat from the more progressive wing which emerged

re-baptised as the Italian

People's Party (PPI) — from
the transformation of Italy's demanding the arraignment

The former prime minister-Silvio Berlusconi, who is a defendant in two corruption triais, made no comment yes terday, but his ally, the former neo-fascist Gianfranco a jail : Fini, called it "an ugly busi- years.

of public figures had become

the country's "national

played down". In every sense of the phrase. Cirio is a household name in Italy, a company which produces the canned

tomatoes that end up on mil-

lions of plates of pasta.
It had been expected that the group in which it was put up for sale would be bought by one of several large national or international companies. But the IRI board declared their bids inadequate, and a 62 per cent stake in Cirio and the other firms was sold to Fis.VI, a little-known federation of co-opera-tives which had to raise the money to fund the deal Cirio.

was later resold. Italian news agencies said that the prosecutor, Gluseppa Geremia, had concluded that Fis.Vi had gained an "unjust advantage" as a result of favourable terms applied by IRI's directors.

money to fund the deal. Cirio

They said Mr Geremia had asked for Mr Prodi and five other members of the then board to be charged with complicity in abuse of office.

politics. The head of the PPI, Gerardo Bianco, made light of the accusations, saying that Dutch group Unilever. The only been entered for a group had expressed an inter-est in Cirio and bought its ed-ible oil business from Fis.Vi

shortly after the IRI decision. The prosecutor's request must be reviewed by an examining judge who will decide whether to order a trial. The abuse of office offence carries a jail sentence of two to five

Introducing the

order firm for

Paul Webster in Paris

'stitch up'

FACED with a record 15,000 plaintiffs, the owner of a French mail order firm was charged at Grasse, near Nice, yester-day with tricking customers into believing they had

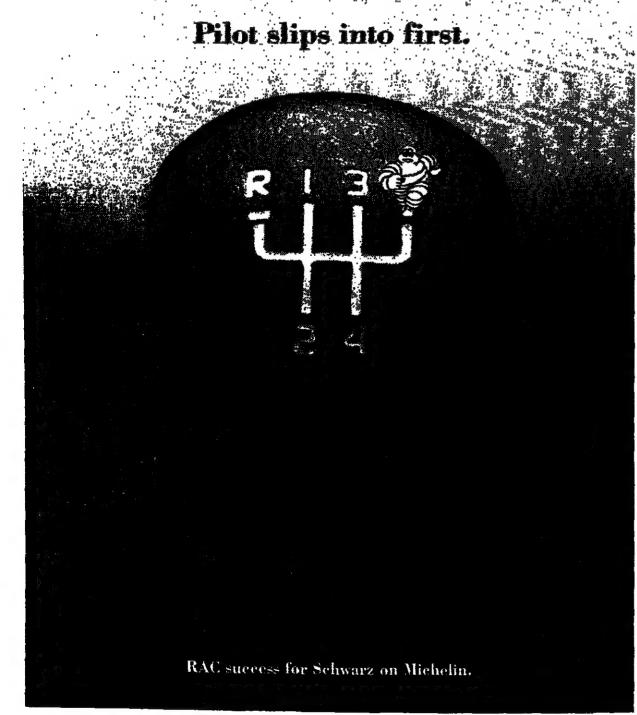
won lottery prizes. The first day of the weeklong trial was set aside to register the charges against Bernard Graeff, of France Direct Service, who is also accused of deceiving buyers with offers such as x-ray spectacles and magic slimming cures.

A conference hall was

linked to the courtroom by closed circuit television. In a recent civil case the company was ordered to pay £30,000 to a woman who thought she had won a lottery and ordered goods from the catalogue to be sure she received her prize.

The prosecution says France Direct Service. which employs 150 people and has a £50 million turn-Mr Prodi was also suspected of a conflict of interest by taking part in the decision they had won holidays, cars

Mr Graeff, aged 48, allegedly compounded the offence by sending out worthless prizes in return for postal costs. More than 50,000 people who believed they had won a sewing machine sent the £15 cover charge and received a stapler in return.



Armin Schwarz powered his Michelm Pilot-shod Toyota Celica through atroctous winter conditions to win this year's Network Q RAC Rally. It was Armin Schwarz's first tuctory in this rally, one of the world's most arduous events.

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Evidence may implicate Salinas in Mexican murder cover-up

Phil Gunson in Mexico City describes the slow process of unravelling a mystery involving the country's top politicians

VIDENCE that for-mer president Carlos Salinas de Gortari may have been inparty's secretary-general Salinas's brother Raul, who is seems likely to bring on the in the maximum security Alawaiting: his summonsing to ently living in Dublin.



Francisco Ruiz Massieu may never emerge.

The special prosecutor's office maintains that Carlos Salinas's brother Raul, who is

prove that the human remains found recently on a property belonging to Raul are those of the missing conto have conspired. So far, tests have proved in-

conclusive, but the defence lawyer, Santiago Luengo, in-sists that the remains were udice his client.

mant", whose letter to a medium known as La Paca al-legedly led to the discovery of the bones, disappeared more than a month ago, ac-cording to the news magazine The magazine identified the

informant as a long-standing PRI activist and said that he had claimed to have seen Raill standing over Muñoz Rocha's body with a bloody baseball bat in his hands, and added that Raûl's chief bodyguard, Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Chavez was also

has told the investigators that Raúl asked him to help dispose of a white VW Jetta which he now believes belonged to the congressman.

He claims to have seen

cha, with whom he is alleged secretary. Justo Ceja, miento, says that an "en to have conspired. apparently involved in a tionally reliable" source to tionally reliable" source told him that the investigators had paid Muñoz Rocha's aide Ceja drive into the presiden-tial residence, Los Pinos, with a body — evidently still alive

at this point — under a blan-ket on the back seat. Mr Ceja, identified by a for-mer senior official as being involved in drug trafficking, is a fugitive, having failed to respond to three separate ummouses. Col Chaver's alleges that a coaching the witne

year after the killing he and two other officers were rewarded by Carlos Salinas for their "loyalty" to his brother. They were given money to attend an English-language course in Britain. Unfortunately for the special prosecutor, the latest evidence contradicts ele-ments in the testimony of The prosecution, meanwhile, has accused several de They include Raul's wife Parlina Castañon, who achieve

proved an initial suspicion that the money was derived from drug trafficking, Raúl is asm to pin the blame on Raul, the prosecutor and his fellow also facing charges of "illicit enrichment" during his years investigators may have bro-

the opposition's gaining access

seen some of the most brutal

attacks on civilians in the four-

year conflict. Villages have been attacked at night and

whole families have had their

throats slit. The attacks are

assumed to be the work of the

Armed Islamic Group, the

GIA, a nebulous and radical

At least 120 civilians, includ-

ing a Bulgarian national, were killed this month. In the last

two days, six people died and 32 others were wounded in car

bomb explosions. Heba Saleh is North Africa cor-



A bull bears the trophy of amateur matador Jaime Lenis's shoe and sock in the ring at Betulia, Colombia, after charging a crowd of 1,000 people PHOTOGRAPH: FERNANDO LLANO

Beasts triumph at the **bullfighting festivals**

AIME LENIS was lucky. The bull got his shoe and sock — which were left also been mobilised, prompting protests from the FFS to ask the president to prevent he did keep most of his foot. Mr Lenis is not a professional bullfighter. He is one of the thousands of amateurs who jump into the ring with 1,000lb bulls for fun in Colomthe end of a month which has

bia's bull festivals. Unlike traditional bullfights with skilled matadors, these af-fairs almost never result in a bull killed. But often the human competitors do not fare so well — and the crowd wouldn't have it any other

way.
"If nobody gets killed it's boring," said Carlos Peres, head of the committee that organised this year's contest in Betulia. "It's man against bull, and it's only fun when the bull

Nobody died in Betulia's festival, but many were injured: tricks like sticking the bulls Mr Lenis needed stitches in with banderillas — darts — or

tals to a bull's horn and dozens suffered cuts.

The festivals - called corralejus, from corral — are held between August and January ern plains like Betulia, 330 miles north-west of the capital, region where leftwing guerril

paramilitaries In the Betulia corraleja. wooden stadium one at a time to be met by about 1,000 people shouting and waving red capes, sticks, umbrellas, banners and spikes. About 20,000 speciators waiched from make-shift stands. Rock and salsa music blared from outdoor

The festivals last four or five days, with at least 35 bulls each day. A few dozen experienced bullfighters make a living at the festivals, betting cattle ranchers they can perform tricks like sticking the bulls

his foot, one man was gored in jumping over them. Bets the head, nother lost his geni-range from 10,000 peacs (£6) to range from 10,000 pesos (£6) to 1 million pesos (£600).

But most people in the ring were amateurs spurred on by ranchers in the stands, who nelp bankroll the event, throw sweets and money into the ring to encourage people to get

"There's no honour in what the townsfolk do. It's just one bull against 1,000 morons." said the best professional in the region, Luis Cuadrado.

Besides the weight advantage, bulls are a lot faster than their competitors, most of whom have been partying for

Each time someone is gored, he is carried to a small casu-alty room down the road to be

"The truth is that terror is fun. The atmosphere and the music are great, but the injuries can be brutal," said the doctor, Gustavo Montes, as be

Democratic power slipping away

Car-bomb attacks killed six people and wounded 32 in the build up to Algeria's referendum this week on a new constitution barring fundamentalists from politics. **Heba Saleh** reports

| much for the prime minister or for the elected deputtes in the country to addressing railities around the country to enlist support for the constitution. State-run television has barring fundamentalists from politics. Heba Saleh reports

ANS need a strong says Yacine, a middle-ranking manager of a state company. He puts his trust in President Lamine Zeroual, a former army general, because he is used to commanding Mr Zeroual's clean record has been constantly invoked by supporters since 1994. en senior army officers chose him to lead the country through a transitional period. That was two years after they cancelled elections to prevent the now-outlawed Islamic Salvation Front from winning, sparking a violent confrontation with armed Is-

people have died.

The transitional period

ended last year when Mr Zer-oual strengthened and legitimised his position by win-ning a presidential election. He now looks likely to increase his powers further.

Algerians will vote on a new constitution which would outlaw religious par-ties and limit the president to two terms, but give him more political authority.

The president called the referendum as part of a process, which he initiated and controls, to pave the way for new parliamentary elections next year. This time, however, he is loading the system with safeguards to guarantee that

E ALGERI- | lamic groups in which 50,000 | the election will bring no sur prises. He has taken religion out of politics, ensuring that no party capable of mobilising the masses and upsetting the status-quo can emerge for many years to come.

The new constitution pro poses a two-chamber parliament and power for the president in effect to veto any important legislation. He would appoint a third of the deputies in the Council of

the Nation — the upper house — where bills would need a three-quarters majority to be He could rule by decree when parliament is not in session, and appoint most senior officials in the administration,

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opposition party which has urged its supporters to vote against the proposals. Its call, owever, may might not carry much weight outside the Ber-ber-speaking region of Kabylia, where the FFS has its

other key witnesses.

ben the law.

Moreover there are indica-tions that, in their enthusi-

the Rally for Culture and Democracy, has called for a boy-cott. The two legal Islamist parties, Hamas and Ennahda, have made it clear that they oppose the new constitution. Under the new system they will have a year to adjust their

"The political class is free to express itself," said the prime minister, Ahmed Ouyahia. "But it is expressing itself about a matter which is a question between the author of the the army and the judiciary.
"This doesn't leave very Algerian people." Mr Ouyahia

Common names gum up China's bureaucracy

AP in Beijing

HR tendency of Chines parents to give their children simple, commonly used names is causing havoc in the bureaucracy, leading police to chase the wrong suspects. China's census takers complained that in their last survev discovered more than

4,600 people in Beiling ing the name Zhang Li and a similar number all called Zhang Ying, the official news-paper China Business Times said yesterday. In the north-eastern city of Shenyang, the census takers found more than 4,800 people

called Liang Shuzhen, and more than 3,000 called, respectively. Wang Wei, Li Wei and Li Jie, the report "Not only is this inconve nieut for everyone, but it also causes confusion in household registries, personne management, telephone direc tories, school records and police work," the newspaper

Italy finds ancient Etruscan tombs intact

Reuter in Correteri

TALIAN archaeologists have unearthed nine ancient Etruscan tombs, perfectly preserved and filled with priceless objects from around priceless objects from around the Mediterranean, according

in police.

A team of state archaeologists discovered the tombs after being tipped off by finance police who had spotted three people digging near the vast necropolis outside the town of Cerveteri, near Rome The police said yesterday in a statement that the three

grave-robbers escaped arrest, but subsequent digs in the area had "unearthed nine Etruscan tombs... from be-tween the fifth and seventh centuries BC and still per-



Fretilin guerrillas deny they have lost support

John Aglionby in Jakarta

HE East Timor indepen

dence movement denied yesterday army claims that resistance to the Indonesian government was waning Major-General Abdul Rivai chief of the military region which includes East Timor, which includes East Timor, said yesterday: "It is true there are still rebels, but there are less than 100 of them, perhaps only 80."

Last year the military said there were more than 200 armed guerrillas operating in the hills and forests of East

Timor.

Alfredo Ferreira, a spokesman in Australia for Fretilin, the guerrilla movement formed when Indonesia invaded the Fortuguese colony, laughed when told of the statement. "Indonesia has been saying that sort of thing all along right from the heginning." he right from the beginning," he said. "It was never true then

and it isn't true now. "Fretilin is not a movemen that depends on its numbers to engage the enemy and at the moment I believe we have just moment I believe we have just | German magazine Der Spiegel, under 1,000 men under arms. | he said that he had spoken in

Indonesia invaded East Timor in 1975 and annexed it the following year. The United Nations still recognises Portugal as the administrative Indonesia says it maintains

a garrison of troops in East Timor. Independent sources say it numbers more than 7,000 and could be 10,000.

and could be 10,000.
Gen Riavi said Carlos Belo.
East Timor's Roman Catholic
bishop and joint winner of the
1996 Nobel peace prize, could
help to end the conflict.
Bishop Belo, widely known
for mediating between the two
sides in the past, told a news
conference vesteriay that he

conference yesterday that he did not support either the inte-gration of East Timor into In-donesia or the move for inde-pendence. He just wanted to mprove the situation in the

erritory.
He denied accusing Indonesian soldiers of treating residents of East Timor like scabby dogs". Referring to an article in the

But we can recruit many more as the occasion and need demands."

Indonesia invaded East the interiew of East Timor's situation since 1976, not just the present day, and that his words did not necessarily represent his personal views or

experience.
"As a bishop I have a moral duty to speak for the voice of the poor and the simple people who, when intimidated or terrorised, cannot defend themselves or make their suf-fering voiced," he said. John Palmer in Brussels

adds: The European Union has decided to proceed with direct economic aid to civil organisa-tions in East Timor, in the face of strong diplomatic protests by the Indonesian government. EU foreign ministers author-ised the commission to pre-pare aid projects for health. education, sanitation. But the Irish presidency of

received from the government in Jakarta warning that the EU's action could have grave consequences for East Timor. The letter said that the proposed EU aid could jeopardise negotiation between Portugal

The Guardian

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Mr Clarke's good day

The Chancellor is winning the Euro argument

promised one of the major Commons of the Euro; a new exchange rate mechconfrontations of the era. "Clarke on rack over Europe", roared one. "Clarke tem; and the so-called "stability pact", sent into the lions' den", announced a which is designed to ensure that those second. The expected row over the European single currency threatened the very survival of the Government, warned the Daily Mail. And in the event? No blood. No plucked fingernails. No screams at all. Instead an hour and a quarter of questions to the Chancellor with all the excitement of a a wet November night in Birmingham. The Government survived again, as it has developed a habit of doing. The rack turned out to be a comfortable armchair for a relaxed Mr Clarke. And the lions turned in a distinctly mangy and toothless performance.

So had it all been a lot of hype about nothing? Did the headline writers misread the signs? Not at all. The threats had been genuine enough. The Tory backbench revolt was sincerely felt. Yes, of course yesterday's session was an anti-climax. But that anti-climax tells us a lot more about the state of the argument about Europe than the overexcited sceptic MPs and the predatory Sir James Goldsmith looking down from the Commons gallery would care to admit. The Commons yesterday lacked the drama which the backstairs intrigues of the previous few days had threatened. But it was a genuinely important event nonetheless, perhaps even a kind of turning-point. It showed that when it comes to the crunch the Chancellor's pragmatic approach not only has majority support. Even more important, it proved that the Chancel-

None of the issues raised in the documents which were discussed by European Standing Committee B last week in the meeting which triggered the latest row was a bolt from the blue. Granted that the documents covered

YESTERDAY morning's headlines had | three important issues: the legal status anism of the European Monetary Sys-tem; and the so-called "stability pact", who sign up to the single currency stick to the monetary disciplines which enabled them to join in the first place. But all three are explicitly prefigured in the Maastricht Treaty. No one who has maintained even an average interest in European questions over the past decade could be in any serious sense surprised by them. It goes without saying that MPs should debate them in whatever parliamentary forum and as often (almost) as they choose. But they should not pretend that these plans are more shocking than they are or that they are going somewhere they are not. Nor can they. The inability to make those claims stick is the ultimate explanation for yesterday's damp backbench

> Yet Mr Clarke could afford to be relaxed on these questions because, in his pocket if not in his heart, he carries Britain's single currency opt-out. This vital option means that, along with Denmark, Britain is able to help shape the terms of the single currency without being committed to joining it. A rational observer might conclude that this was an advantage, since the British economy will inevitably be affected in profound ways by the Euro group, whether Britain is a member or not. It ought to be a reassurance to Conservative MPs that Mr Clarke sits round the table with his Ecofin colleagues shaping the terms, even though neither he nor anyone else knows whether Britain will ultimately be a member. This thought inflames some Tory MPs rather than reassuring them. Yet Mr Clarke is engaged, possibly against some of his more Europhile instincts, in a piece of patriotic economics of which sensible people can only approve.

An engagement in Beijing

But America must not make it too easy for China

HERBAL tea and acupuncture can help I tions with Washington are stable. cure hoarseness, China's President Mr Clinton's announcement is a sig-Jiang Zemin helpfully told a smiling inificant undertaking, particularly after and confident Bill Clinton when they a re-election campaign in which foreign met in Manila last weekend and announced reciprocal state visits over the his earlier but now muted public critinext two years. But when the first American president to go to China since the Tiananmen Square massacre in 1989 arrives in Beijing he should urge stronger and more conventional medicine on his hosts.

Warm words between the two leaders at the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperacalculated froideur at the same event in Seattle in 1993, though again there were no signs of agreement on the range of contentious issues that separate them.

Trade certainly matters to the Americans: more of it could help reduce the \$35 billion deficit the US has with China. It could also help allay security fears that an antagonistic China poses in Asia, particularly in its sale of nuclear technology to countries like Pakistan and Iran and its role in the disputes between North and South Korea. It is after all only a few months since US naval battle groups were despatched 'tested" some missiles to coincide with the Republic's election.

For their part, China's leaders, nervously awaiting the post-Deng Xiaoping era, know that to maintain their Lenininvestment that will only come if rela- motion programme.

policy rarely featured and in the light of cism of China's refusal to address human rights abuses. The current line from Washington is that though there are "serious problems" in the relationship with Beijing, high-level meetings can help move it along.

The US is far from alone in being able to live with China's tyranny as long as tion forum contrasted sharply with the it embraces the market. But its enormous political and economic weight means that it sets both the tone and the pace for other countries. Unless Mr Clinton actively seeks progress on continuing repression in Tibet and the petty but vicious oppression of dissidents at home he will send the wrong message to Beijing. His officials have already made clear that no visits will so ahead until Washington has assess how the Chinese are dealing with their obligations to maintain the status quo in post-1997 Hong Kong. Judiciously formulated, other conditions could be attached too. Concern is mounting that to the Taiwan straits after Beijing in the world's "rush to engagement" with the state that contains a quarter of mankind, human rights are being left behind. If Mr Clinton is to succeed in what Americans like to call a "reach for history" in his second term, then his ist-led capitalist revolution and enrich policy towards China needs to consist their people, they need massive foreign of substantially more than a trade pro-

New Homes and Gardens

The problem is a mismatch of supply and demand

extent should planning accommodate less pressure? It is not just old Stalinists and town planners who want more order: the house-building industry too is desperate for guidance from the Govlikely to be built. Mr Gummer's Environment Department has produced projections suggesting 4.4 million new households will be created in the 25years up to 2016 - one million more than currently being planned for.

ALL HAIL John Selwyn Gummer. Yes- | Where should they go? To his credit terday's consultation document, House Mr Gummer is pushing "brownfield" hold Growth: Where Shall We Live?, is land — urban sites to protect rural a chance to restore strategic planning areas from planning blight. Brownfield to its proper role in place of current | building has risen from 34 to 50 per cent market madness. It still only remains of new housing but a recent Joseph implicit but anyone who reads through Rowntree Foundation report predicted yesterday's 72 page report - plus an this could now decline to 30 per cent accompanying 116 pages of urban pro- because of the high costs of reclaiming jections - will know the answer to the the remaining land and a need to proquestion posed at the end: to what tect urban playing fields and city parks from increasing encroachment by housdemand or seek to divert it to areas of ing. The problems are well known: a mismatch of supply and demand. People want to live where there is little available land and don't want to live where development sites still remain. ernment on where new houses are Hence the need for bribes, incentives, subsidies, and even restrictions. In short, a coherent strategy, not based on single solution but which recognises the need for a range of different options depending on the area and local planning needs.



Letters to the Editor

Why the West isn't best A seminal question of ethics which the BMA fails to answer

to accommodate their full

repercussions. One need only witness children swimming in luminous blue-green water in Thailand, or scouring gar-

Bankside House, 24 Sumner Street,

AMUEL Huntington's distorted vision of the world (The West v the rest, Essay, November 23) panders to Western prejdices in order to promote a malevolent agenda of confrontation.

that Western culture must be preserved in a clearly delimited "West" in order to "generate a third Euro-American phase of Western affluence and political influence" in splendid isolation from the rest of humanity. This is ar-rant nonsense. Has he forgot-ten that the last five centuries of Western global expansion and prosperity were, in large part, the outcome of interier ence in — and exploitation of — other parts of the world?

Elithely dismissing the cul-ture of cross-fertilisation and civilisational overlaps that are one of the most dynamic features of the modern condition, Huntington's world is one that has no room for any-thing or anyone that does not fit into stereotypical categories. His language of cultural uniqueness relies upon the stigmatisation of "others" of whom the West must beware or fall prey to, and its roots lie duce the worst excesses of

colonialism and racism. The West can no more exist as a fortress in the 21st century than Rome did in the (Dr) James Chiriyankandath.

London Guildhall University, Calcutta House, Old Castle Street,

Fuming spires

'M fascinated by the exem

tion from normal listed

buildings procedures for the

St Pancras buildings (Her-

tage groups attack govern-

ment rail terminus surren-

£100,000 extra that we could have got for selling the site of

our old Grade II*-listed

church rather than selling the

church itself for alternative

use. Church members have

der'. November 22).

We're building church on a tight budget be-cause we had to forgo up to

The essay is a boon for the the need to protect our civilisation is a continuing increase in expenditure on weaponry to ensure that we are able to

> see off any attack on our way of life. And the security in dustry will benefit from Bill Jackson.

Nottingham NG2 7QD.

FUND

tighter immigration controls. 2 William Road

ROF Huntington, in what is clearly a call for a renewal of cold-war policy, acts irresponsibly in formulating an ideology which clearly imposes "modern" processes on nations unable THE West has in recent years failed to "maintain its dynamism" with slow growth rates, downturns in the market economy and mass unemployment. Behind this failure is the passive ac-ceptance of dated forms of economic theory, which de-cree that free trade and eco-nomic specification between trading nations will optimise

hage heaps outside super-malls in the Philippines. These cannot be either ad-vances on previous social their productive capacity: Ironically it is in this con-text that Huntingdon's reaffirmation of certain aspec of modernisation theory, es-pecially that "Western cul-ture will become the univerconditions, nor isolated exam-ples of the abuse inherent to modernisation without sal culture of the world", may flounder. Within this free-forall global market, Western nations and their values are being undercut by many newly-emerging economic powers in the Far East. Some

ROF Huntington appears to want to raise the draw of these, such as China, share very few of the "common" bridge to keep out the vast hordes from the Southern Western values. As a result many developed market economies in the West are abandoning key aspects of their social legislation to compete. In the UK, there is no minimum wage, health and safety regulations are gradually being whittled cupy our streets. Yet the US is already a multi-cultural society while large parts of Europe comprise numerous ethnic and cultural group-ings, mainly without away to nothing, and labour

Similarly, other EU and north American nations are actively scaling down public expenditure on welfare and public services. In other words, the West is taking on non-Western values. simon Kyte.

41-43 Seaview Road, Shoeburyness, Southend-on-Sea SS3 9DX.

exert enough influence to pull

such strings, the co-operation of the churches and the gen-

erosity of their members does

"gone with Germans" was based on the testimony of two

24-year-old Jerseymen, a clerk and a farmer, who had es-

(Rev) Steve Parish. The Vicarage,

sion (in practice) in the hands | rail-terminus developers car

will not spend it repairing a look rather naïve. (Rev) Steve Parisi suitable for modern church The Vicarage,

needs just because someone la Fitzherbert Street, else thinks it's important. If Warrington WA2 7QG.

tee, is wrong to equate artificial insemination with surgical transplantation of organs (Fight goes on for new life after death, November 23). Spermatozoa have evolved over millions of years with the sole purpose of being transferred from one animal to another, whereas hearts and kidneys have evolved to remain in the animal for the

benefit of the individual. Thus whereas artificial in-semination is assisting in the evolutionary goal of carrying the species forward, surgical transplantation is not.

It is not logical to compare the two procedures and in fact they are covered by separate legislation. For Stuart Horner to state that allowing the use of a dead husband's sperm without written con-sent would have very serious implications in transplant surgery is nonsense, both bio-logically and legally. He is quite wrong to use the argument to justify his commit-tee's interference in the case. (Dr) CA Finn.

Chester High Road South Wirral.

HR Blood case concerns an issue of consent, whereas you report Dr Horner basing BMA policy on the view that, without a living father, it would be "a tragedy for the child to be born". This view has nothing to do with con-sent and should have been ignored by the HFEA. If the BMA thinks it has the right to pronounce on Mrs Blood's wish to bear her late hus-band's child, it is time to resign my membership of that organisation.

(Dr) J R Yarnold. 27 Killieser Avenue London SW2 4NX

DIANE Blood cannot use her dead husband's sperm because "the special nature of genetic material, which is used to create new life, is of such fundamental importance that we believe it would be wrong to use the material without explicit informed consent", says Dr Horner. Why is it, then, that any

commercial concern which finds potentially profitable genetic material in a sample of my blood (or sperm, come of that material without my mowledge or consent, and use it for whatever purp it wishes, regardless of my feelings in the matter?

It appears that there is one law for the rich and powerful and another, self-righteous and heartless, for the individ-

STUART Horner, chairman | ual person who wishes for of the BMA ethics committee, is wrong to equate artif- one any harm. 27 Belvoir Close.

> Hants PO16 0PJ. YOU report that the BMA's ethics committee's contention in the Diane Blood case is that "effective, informed consent" is the "crucial" issue. This surely is a triumph of legalism over com-passion, and doesn't conform to any reasonable under-standing of ethics, the reason-able rights of next of kin, the nature of marriage or the Hippocratic oath. David Fletcher

32 Shakespeare Road. London W7 1LR. WHAT is Martin Kettle talking about (In cold Blood, November 23) when he says there would be "conceptual chaos" if Mrs Blood were

allowed to use her dead husbend's sperm; thousands and theusands of women lining up to have the children of their

dead partners? I doubt it.

He says this is "the thin end of the wedge"; what wedge is he talking about? Children are born all the time sarily "consent" to their conception. I think Martin Kettle is wrong to think that people support her campaign just because they feel sorry for her. They support her because they see that, far from being a "good law", it is unduly restrictive, and that the HFEA ought to be concentrating its energies and money on more important issues. Desna Roberts. 107 Huddleston Road. London N7 OEH.

WAS so glad to read Martin Kettle's article; what circumstances could prompt a woman in hospital with her dying husband to ask the staff to take a semen sample from him? I understand that Mr and Mrs Blood were teenage sweethearts and Mrs Blood is now over 30, so their mutual desire to have children took a while to emerge.

The whole story is bizarre; either there are other facts the public is not privy to or the bulk of the media is being manipulated. Marion Clucas Penny Cross. Sittingbourne, Kent.

We do not publish letters where only an e-mail address is postal address. We regret we cannot acknowledge receipt of letters. We may edit them: shorter ones are more likely to

raised the difference largely from their own income. We accepted the lower price knowing that if we tried to demolish it, we faced a public inquiry with the final deci-

We did not all collaborate with the Nazi occupiers "Jerrybags" and had

of the Environment Secret-

aid: It's our money, and we

As an ex-Channel Islander, can confirm that there has been a shifty evasion of the questions raised by the Nazi occupation, and a resort to a smug "plucky islander" mythology. But it is simplistic and unfair for Julia Pascal (Islands of shame, November 22) to argue that "the majority of Channel Islanders col-laborated". It is the common experience of *every* country under Nazi domination that a few were heroes, many more craven cowards or profiteers and the vast majority those who sullerly endured, engaging in petty acts of "resis-tance" and battling more with their consciences than with the naked savages empowered over them.

What is to suggest Britain would have differed in this? British governments were embarrassed by the Channel Islands precisely because they challenged Britain's own national mythology. "We shall fight them on the beaches..." — but not apparently those of the Channel Islands, whose garrisons were evacu ited on London's orders without firing a shot. Jim Holloway.

Stockport Railway Station, Stockport SK3 9BZ.

who stayed [in Guernsey] chose to, refusing Churchill's offer of a free boat trip". I was seven in June 1940; I stood dren at St Peter Port barbour hoping that a boat would arrive. After much anguished discussion, my parents let me go with the schoolchildren's party. They were not allowed to come with me.

The "free boat trip" was on a cargo vessel called the Ant-werp, covered in coal dust, and very confusing it was. Not everyone who wanted to get way managed it. Some stayed to help elderly or disabled relatives; some didn't see why they should give up all they had worked for.

passion your detestation of treachery and self-serving, Ms Pascal, but please remember there were others who did not behave in this way and who still experience the pain. Broxwood Leominster.

Herefordshire HR6 9JH. **JOUR** report about alleged collaborators was unbalanced (War files reveal horror of islands' SS camp, Novem-

By all means express with

caped to France by cance. These men made further cockeyed comments to British in telligence claiming that "mur-der would be done" when aggrieved husbands returned. A more reliable informant was a 26-year-old former shoe salesman rescued by the Al-lies near Rennes in France while en route for prison in Germany. He said that in Jersey in the summer of 1944 German morale was low and that

Germans were making "vain efforts" at fraternisation. My family lived in Jersey throughout the occupation. My father, David Grove, was taken hostage under threat of execution. My brother Roy stole some military equipment and was shot at while escaping For a month my family hid an escaped prisoner, Don-ald Bell, in the attic.

Such incidents were commonplace. The truth is that despite conditions of great bardship, most people were patriotic and put up what resistance they could. Jenny Chamier Grove. ber 20). The only report claim- 24 Forest Read, ing that seven out of 10 women Kew, Surrey Two 3BY.

A Country Diary

high enough to melt the hoar frost nor to improve the temgling in the sharp air. The purpose of the early start was to arrive at the new mere before the anglers appeared to disturb any birds that had spent the night there, especially the scaup which had been seen the previous day, apparently in the company of a few turted ducks. Once at the mere I found it covered by a hanging mist with birds scattered across the surface. I scanned the water through my binoculars and counted 27 teal, five wigeon, eight pairs of mallard with seven tufted ducks right over in the far corner, a mixture of males and females, but at that distance, with mist affecting the light, I could not make out a pale grey back which would have belonged to a male scaup. Moving closer, taking

CHESHIRE. The sun was not | care not to alarm the group, I watched them swim slowly out into more open water, and perature. Lawns, fields and hedgerows were all glittering, whilst my cheeks were tinfar away to see the green-glossed head plumage but I could make out the round. crestless head shape, and the overall "black fore and aft — pale in the middle" look was quite distinctive. The scaup is a sea-duck in winter, many visiting our coastal waters from breeding grounds in Iceland, but gone are the days when flocks wintered regularly on the estuary of the Cheshire Dee, its county status is now that of a "scarce coastal winter visitor - ver scarce elsewhere". About half an hour had passed when the first angler arrived, car wheels crunching along the rough track down to the small lay-by — all the ducks took to the air and disappeared over the trees. I waited a while but they did not come back.

J M THOMPSON

Time to hate

The Guardian Tuesday November 26 1996 Diary

Matthew Norman

E begin, this Budget Day, with fiscal news from the heart of New Labour. When Mandy Mandelson's The Blair Revented Blair Revolution: Can New Labour Deliver? came out earlier this year, you may recall that his profit-minded chum Dolly Draper set up a company, "3C", to flog copies by mail order. Having inserted 30,000 fly sheets into Labour Party

mailings, Dolly sold a princely 900 copies. That's the good news. The bad news is that Dolly Draper has still to pay Faber £1,038.70 for the last batch June. When he ignored a legal letter sent on September 30, Faber called Dolly on the number listed on his application form, but no one there had ever heard of him, while a call to another number listed — that of Mandy Mandelson's office, - elicited the news that 3C no longer existed. When Dolly was finally traced to Progress magazine, on Octo-ber 12, he swore to pay up within seven days. By yes-terday afternoon, no pay-ment had been received; and with Dolly uncontacta-hie Eabourders in the contactable. Faber despairs as to where he might be. The Diary is unsure, but thinks it worth checking the Win-chester Club in west London, long-time safe haven from 'er indoors for a Mr

BUSY weekend looms for Kenny Ball and His Jazzmen, in whose careers the Diary and its loyal army of readers take so keen an interest. writes from north London forewarning us that on Sat-urday night Kenny and the boys play at the Flackley Ash Hotel, Peasmarsh, Rye. East Sussex; while on Sun-day, they have a lunchtime engagement at the High Rocks Hotel, near "west of Tumbridge Wells". Keep it up, gentlemen, keep it up.

Arthur Daley.

N shock news from the world of conundrums, Brandreth's Brainstorm, the puzzle page of my friend Gyles Brandreth, fails to appear in this week's OK magazine. According to Claudia Pattison, the feature writer who took the Diary's call of protest yesterday, he has not been sacked; it is simply due to pressure of space. "Gyles won't be in every issue from now on, but he'll definitely be appearing again," she says. "It will depend on how many stories we have." What a way to treat the gravitas-laden Chester MP. Thank God he retains his crossword — 10 across: eads may be attached to them (7) — in Dogs Today.

AM pleased to note that standards of clarity con-tinue their ascent in the written English of Her Britannic Majesty's civil servants. A reader in Liverpoo received a two-page letter earlier this month from Kirkby JobCentre, page one of which begins: "I am pleased to tell you that we can pay you the Jobseeke Allowance." By way of confirming the point, mean-while, page two starts: "I am sorry to tell you that you are not entitled to Jobseeker's Allowance." Stand by for the explanation. "This is because you have to be available for work. The law says people who have to be available for work cannot get Jobseeker's Allowance." How can the applicant get around this. though? "You should claim Jobseeker's Allowance instead." Yes, of course.

CONTRNDER steps forward for the title "newspaper corre-spondent of the year". Sat-urday's Independent carried a captivating letter from a Matthew Seward of method for challenging a Labour leader . . . so captivating, indeed, that on the same page was a second mis sive from Mr Seward, this time about proportional representation. Is this a reaged a hat-trick?

ARAH Gutch from Twickenham kindly sends in a raffle ticket issued by the Association for Post-Natal Illness. The draw is to be made on December 30, and the 20p ticket announces that first prize will be "two nights for two in Paris, travelling by Eurostar". Second prize meanwhile, is "What To Do In An Emergency".



With one bound, the Chancellor was free

Commentary

Hugo Young

OMETHING entirely in the Commons yesterday. We were sum-moned to witness the roasting of the Chancellor. He was coming to defend the indefen-sible, the failure of the Government to make time for a proper debate on the next stage of the run-up to Euro-pean economic and monetary union. Here was an omission he couldn't excuse, whether it was down to incompetence. prudence, or cowardice. Every faction in the House appeared united against him. The Opposition had found and leaked a set of documents old, dull, misleading, it mattered not — into an atmomatered not — into an amo-sphere of explosive hysteria, which the Tory Euro-sceptics duly ignited. If Mr Clarke es-caped in a vertical position it would be a triumph, so tightly

debate. For an hour-and-a-quarter he delivered a series of voluble lectures to every one of his tormentors, who proved entirely unable to for-ment him. It had been ex-pected, at best, that he might rebuilf them with the bucolic gall and bluster for which he's famous. What he did was more interesting. He began to change some of the terms of the argument.
The occasion had one dra-

matic effect. It swept a crucial piece of ground from under the Euro-sceptics who have taken their stand upon it. Hitherto, their prime demand has been for the Government formally to exclude itself from participation in the first round of entrants into EMU. That's the cry to be heard across the sceptic spectrum, from rational to demented. It's the position they still think they can force the Prime Min-

ister to adopt before the elec-tion. After Labour's commit-ment to an EMU referendum. Mr Redwood and his friend delayed not a moment before working the media circuits to call for the Tories to shift their sceptic ratchet by another notch and rule out mem bership for the whole of the next Parliament

The first instruction Mr Clarke offered the House yes-terday was in the utter absur-

wasn't surprising. But what the entire occasion kept driv-ing home was the inexorable force of the argument. The os-tensible complaint of both Labour and the sceptics was that Parliament was being ex-cluded from making a contricluded from making a contri-bution to these negotiations. But how could they make this case while simultaneously ad-vocating a strategy that would take both Parliament and Gov-erument away from influence of any kind? How could people be bleating about the need for debate, yet go on saying that Britain should announce to every other EU country that

every other EU country that her interest had become en-firely academic because she had no intention of joining

EMU anyway?
If wasn't long before the majority of those present seemed to start understand-ing this. They entered into the spirit of it. Every empha-sis on the danger of EMU a cheat, a fraud, a conspiracy gainst the British, made the case for the Clarke-Major strategy. Every time Mr Clarke was driven to explain that the stability of the euro will have a critical bearing on the largest currency that stays out of it, he quelled, and eventually silenced, the scep-

EMU, he compelled the House's grudging acceptance that it made sense for Britain to retain every scrap of leverage it has to shape the rules to which, one day, the country may submit. Even Norman Lamont agreed with him. The rules mattered. We had a rules mattered. We had a huge interest in them. Why, in that case, (though Mr Lamont refrained from saying it exactly), walk away from the table?

Mr Clarke proposed a

صكذا من الاعل

The most insouciant of minis-ters, he nonetheless wished to under which the House apparently wanted him to labour. They'd charged him, he said, with withholding vital documents. One notes in passing that the present frenzy is capable of defining a pre-publication edition of the Brussels telephone directory as a vital document. The

In the present frenzy, an edition of the Brussels telephone directory is called a vital document

Chancellor disposed of the documents in question, by saying he would be happy to m to the pile of Euromaterial which already chokes the scrutiny process that Parliament has spent so many years refusing to reform. But there were limits to any negotiation that stood a chance of maximising the British interest. It wouldn't make sense, be thought, to expose every detail of what he might and might not concede

These scenes from the real life of government had a chastening effect. They won't have persuaded everybody. It's obvious that ministers hoped to get away without the kind of debate that will now take where and I don't think they place, and I don't think they should have done so. They should have done so. They tried a gamble that didn't come off, and plenty of Conservative MPs will be determined to see this as another item to add to the long litany of charges, going back to the Treaty of Rome, that appear to them to prove that

to them to prove that "Europe" is a conspiracy of the governing elite against the people, and now against the assembly of the people as well. The ranks of the incorr gibles, fuming bitterly, scheming impenitently, ex-tending daily the frontiers of political paranoia, continue to mobilise on the govern-But yesterday, for the first

time in many months, they got little purchase on the argot little purchase on the argument. Their questions were feeble, their fears extravagant, their remedies contradictory. Even as they wittered, they kept exposing the consummate fantasy at the heart of their recition, which heart of their position, which is that any attempt to dis-em-broil Britain from European

Mr Clarke was even able to refer to "parliamentary hyste-ria" as one of the forces now arraigning him, without being roared at from either side. You felt that the broad centre of the Tory Party, supposedly turning Redwoodite by the minute in its rage at what's been happening, recognised a logic it couldn't rebut What was billed as ordeal by

by amenity groups like the Council for the Protection of Rural England, which sug-gests that these figures are extrapolated from existing trends, which may not last for ever. We should also note that despite his protestations on behalf of the countryside, Gummer is a member of a Government that, in reality, has been overruling county authorities which have tried to settle for lower numbers of

crease in demand is contested

new houses than the Govern-ment itself has proposed. Yet the fundamental chal-lenge is different again. We must stop thinking of the city and the country as polarised domains — as if the welfare of one is to be secured at the expense of the other. This has serious implications for the organisations concerned to de fend the rural areas. The CPRE responded to Gummer's announcement by expressing disappointment that he has not concentrated future development even more strongly on urban areas. It also took the opportunity to reaffirm its objection to the idea of new settlements in the countryside green-field developments

like the one that the Eagle Star insurance company is seeking to build around a railway station at Micheldever near Basinestoke

The CPRE's argument is not carelessly made. Indeed, it is advanced in the belief that by steering the house-building programme into urban regeneration, it should be possible to benefit both the town and the country. Yet for anything like this to happen, we urgently need to recover sense of what planning can be - more, certainly, than yet another sad lament for the countryside, combined with a policy of bouncing the house-

builders into the city.
In the meantime, the idea of reviving the terraced street as a civilised and conveniently space-saving urban form will be no more convincing than trying to stack 4.4 million new households on to one of those old "living bridges" like London Bridge - tha so fulsomely at the Royal Academy a few weeks ago.

Village that Died for England (Vintage) and has written and broadcast widely on town and

the game and have been taking advantage of their growing bargaining strength for some time.

is that any attempt to diseminate the control of the problem of the control of th

consensus to crush the nuts of the television down.

proposed the Community Safety Order — a kind of curfew for noisy or aggressive neighbours, which could carry a maximum jail term of four years. Since fear of reprisal deters many victims from speaking up in court, another idea is the use of private detectives to collect evidence. It certainly gives a new slant to the concept of Neighbourhood Watch, putting the shadow into shadow cabinet.

The agreement to get tougher on the causes of crime — the people behind it, the places where it starts — brings the debate down to the level of individuals and what they do in their homes. This escalation of the punishment for individuals for infringement of others' civil liberties points up the differences be-tween people, rather than binding them together in community. If someone in your street holds noisy allnight parties, it is no longer the case that the friendly neighbourhood policeman pops round for a quick word. Your only course of complaint is official. If the com-plaint is serious, or repeated, local authority officers go

thy neighbour



HY bother with community when you can use carrot and stick? Community, presumably, begins at home. Its platform is the understanding is increasingly the place that people can get together and agree on common values. It doesn't shirk from applying others. Many of our nuisance form is the understanding that people can get together sanctions to those who transgress, but in a spirit of reforming zeal; its creed is

ment. We haven't heard a great deal about it recently. This autumn, however, there has been cross-party nasty neighbours. The Noise Act received Royal Assent last July; in September, local authorities were given clarified powers to seize equipment. In the next few days, the Home Secretary will pub-lish the Prevention of Harass-ment Bill, which is primarily aimed at stalkers, but also provides jail sentences of up to five years for neighbours who threaten violence. Fines and six-month sentences will be brandished at those who refuse to turn the music or

For Labour, Jack Straw has

round, with a warrant if nec-essary, and seize the equip-ment. Then you really do have a dispute on your hands. | let's get the bastards.

Local officers may recommend mediation, but people prepared to go to voluntary mediation are probably already prepared to settle. UK Mediation, the umbrella organisation for the 75 community units around the organisation for the 75 com-munity units around the country, had a 34 per cent increase in enquiries last year. Even so, they only dealt with around 2,000 cases — set against 200,000 complaints to bourhood noise.

The home is emerging as the next site of millennial rage. The castle, the lair, the refuge from the outside world laws were conceived in a time when the monied classes had the space to live as they pleased and nobody else had the means to argue. Tolerance—the philosophy of live and let live—wasn't so difficult Now decades of brutal public architecture, flimsy social housing and large numbers out of work or retired have kept people boxed in at home. Home entertainment courtesy

of Toshiba, Aiwa, Sony and the rest has raised noise levels. One person's Nirvana is most often another's hell. lt's also true for Mantovani. For what has always been an individualistic society, the realisation that, even in the home, people's liberties and rights do not coincide is very difficult. Under governments that encourage individualism and discourage recourse to the state, it becomes a source of frustration and anger. Home-owners glower from be-hind acid-green cupressus barriers. Liberals in wide open spaces turn into Victor Meldrew within their own four walls.

But the solution that is held out is not the com-munitarian idea of improving our common circumstances; it is the punitive, divisive one of bashing the neighbour. Community as an idea works best when there is an external threat. War or the horror of an attack such as Dunblane emphasises the things we value together. Films like Independence Day glorify humanity against an alien threat. But if we all look alike from Mars, as the lens zooms in the differences be-tween us are magnified. The monster across the garden fence becomes an obsession.

The problem for the advo-

cates of the communitarian idea is that it doesn't really sell. Far from protecting people from the unpleasant reality across the hallway or down the road, it forces the face to face with it. Crowds of other people are fine at foot-hall matches, on planes or beaches. Otherwise, the British do not seem suited to the discursive, sharing language of the community. Politicians

Urgent: children's exodus from Zaire

Can you help?

n the last week, 400,000 people have returned to Rwanda from Zaire. Among them are countless children who are hungry. vulnerable and terrified. Aid agency Children's Aid

Direct are waiting to receive hundreds of children who have been separated from their parents. Executive Director David Grubb says: "This is just the beginning. As children continue to arrive, our priority is to keep them alive and then re-unite them with their families."

For two years, Children's Aid Direct have been helping families in Rwanda to return to normal community life. They need your support today to help keep these refugees



your help today alive and provide them with the seeds, tools and health care they need to rebuild

Vulnerable children need

their lives. Please join Children's Aid Direct in giving these children the future they deserve. £30 could feed 150 children for a day. £30 could provide a family with essential seeds and tools. Can you help today?

Yes, I	want	to give	the chi	ildren a	a char	nce	
ere is my g 30 £50 A gin of £250 o lease make y R Piesse debi	our ch	£80 [] is worth elim eque paya	nostan ext able to C	ra third to hildren's	us unde Aid Di	r Gift A rect	id (
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POSTCODE

OR please phone our donation line 0990 600 610 Please send to: Children's Aid Direct Dept No. 486. FREEPOST, Reading RG1 18R. Registered Charty No. 803236

Children's Aid

was he pinned against the Not only did he survive, he dity of such a strategy. His en-took the opportunity to bring tire discourse underlined the tic position that has long pre-tended otherwise. Every time he alluded to the possibility of tended otherwise. Every time to the wily continentals. he alluded to the possibility of sterling one day entering tion, a mite of latitude. "What the first small dose of reality merits of Britain being at the for months to the European | Ecofin table, where the pre-A multi-storey story

Patrick Wright challenges John

Gummer's traditional thinking about town, country and where to put the new buildings

HEN it comes to rural fear of the encroach ing city, there is still no one 1930s. Squires were less inhib ited in those days, especially those more or less Hitlerit defenders of English agricul-ture who looked out over their rolling acres and penned hurid descriptions of what would happen in the event of war, when cheap im-ported food would fall victim to a submarine blockade, and famine would come to Rus land. The walls of the indus trial city would break, and degenerate hordes would spill out on to the land - raping and looting and eating every-thing in their path, right

down to the rats. That was extreme and ecentric stuff, but the rural idyll has continued to weigh heavily on the city, and in unexpected ways too. It was there during Harold Macmil-lan's housing boom of the 1950s, enthusiastically anticipating the urban tower blocks that would soon be going up in so many British cities. In a parliamentary discussion concerned with state subsi-dies for housing, the Tory Lord Hinchingbrooke argued that the programme should be shifted from houses of a kind that caused spoliation of the countryside, and concentrated instead on the creation of "first-class flats of 12, 15 and 20 storeys" for city-dwellers who would thereby be enabled to stay in their

proper place. backyard in Sufforthe civilising quality of the whole countryside.

He lamented the promised, on yesterdeed to the family. yet the ardour with which he promised, on yesterday's that increasingly couples extra the majority of new development to existing towns and the immented the break-up of the family, which means that increasingly couples expect to break up into two homes "of the same standard". "We've really got to



cities suggests that, at heart at least, he is in the tradition. As he struggled, with heroic reluctance, to accommodate those 4.4 million new house holds on this crowded island he seemed to take Nimbylsr and expand it until it applied not just to his own capacious backyard in Suffolk, but to the whole English

He lamented the break-up

decide whether that is tenable | has changed. Theirs was part any longer in a country of this size," he proclaimed. without specifying what action the Government might take to put an end to that

particular trend.

More practical, then, to squeeze the cities. Gummer wouldn't put it that way, but that was the spirit in which he reached for the green belt, and promised to defend it against encroachment. Physically, this may be the same green belt that was designed and put in place by post-war.

of an integrated system of town and country planning But deregulation has intervened, and Gummer's green engaged device than that — a cross between a corset and a new Berlin Wall, applied and frantically tightened between the leafy shires and the heav-ing mass of people in the city. Gummer has called for a "real national debate" on

n belt that was designed begin by questioning the Gov-put in place by post-war ernment's projections for projected in-country matter

Our new radical hero: the British trucker. Watch out at the barricades, warns Seumas Milne

OR anyone who imag-ined that large groups of workers exercising a vice-like grip on economic life went out with the Mor-ris Marina and simply have no place in the post-modern world, the latest emption of mass picketing by 50,000 French lorry drivers will have come as a rude shock indeed. But now we know that this is no longer a quaint Continental eccenquaint Confinental eccentricity: for British drivers yesterday showed they could block a route principale as effectively as any Pierre or Jean.

Some British truckers

idarity with their French counterparts' campaign for shorter hours and earlier retirement. Others seemed to think they were doing doing it in protest against the the French drivers' im-pudence at blocking them. Either way, British

Freight has shifted over-whelmingly from rail to road and the underlying

scope for successful collective action has widened since the truckers were hammered by their employconditions have been squeezed and hours But there are already

signs that the drivers' resolve is hardening; only a few weeks back, an attempt to cut truckers' wages in the oil industry was seen off by their union, the Transport and General.

French lorry drivers — with two centuries of Gallic may not have the industrial rangements almost imme-barricade-building to fall truckers' fortu-muscle they had 20 years diately after coming to back on—are well ahead of years to come.

Four years ago, they staged weeks of guerrilla-style strikes, paralysing the country at a cost of hundreds of millions of pounds. And the low level of union-isation among French drivers appears actually to have produced more intractable confrontations, led by rapidly changing ad hoc groups of rank-and-file A British drivers' union leader sighs and mutters about 500 years of French history when asked why his

members couldn't learn from their street-blockading colleagues across the Channel. But you can expect a revival of British truckers' fortunes in the

Just keep not trucking on down

Some British truckers

drivers can scarcely avoid getting ideas. Industrial

who joined the blockade of the port at Calais yesterday said they were grounding increased their potential their juggernauts out of solidarity with their French idartity with their French increased their potential economic leverage.

The port at Calais yesterday drivers have, if anything, cowboy haulage firms have run riot in a cut-throat market, unionisation has dropped back, wages and dropped back, wages and have been potential to the potential increased their potential increased

ers in the last national British strike 17 years ago. Margaret Thatcher must have thought of the danpressure points have gers early on, because the shifted in the economy. Tories axed the drivers' Dockers and steelworkers national wage-fixing ar-

A great operator

died aged 52 in the hijacked Ethiopian airliner crash off ing the rebel take-over of Addis Ababa and the shelling of dis Ababa and the sneumy of the imperial palace. Mo had dramatic pictures but, since the airport and television station were closed, he couldn't get them out. He convinced colleagues in Nairobi that if they flew to join him be would make sure it was safe to land. I was aboard that plane. As we made our approach, Mo was still negotiating with the was stin negotiate with the buses removed from the runway. We landed safely. Just as importantly from Mo's viewpoint he now had an aircraft to take his footage to the outside world. When a rival broadcaster tried to put his pictures on the same chartered plane, Mo with but utierly ruthless if he with but utierly ruthless if he cult job.

Ten days after the 1891 Addis Ababa takeover, as Ethiodis

closely identified with one story in particular — the 1984 Ethlopian famine. Mo was shooting for the Visnews agency at the time and Michael Buerk was reporting for the BBC, Amin's pictures and Buerk's commentary produced some of the decade's most powerful television reports, provoked an international outcry and led to an un-precedented relief effort, including Bob Geldor's Live Aid Mo Amin had, Buerk told me. He bullied, and wheedled the Ethlopian authorities to get them there and wouldn't take

no for an answer. After 1984, Mo continued to Nairobi base. He was at the centre of the foreign press corps, fiercely competitive and a master at overcoming bureaucratic obstacles in a

Mo Amin spent more than pia's new rulers began impos-long civil war reached a cli-troublespots, but he was dump caught-fire on the edge dard in 1958. His father had dump caught fire on the edge of the city. The fire burned during the night and although few journalists had transport, Mo had "borrowed" a taxi some days earlier. When the curfew ended, a small group of us drove to the scene. Mo had moved his filming position for safety reasons and there were houses on fire all

were moving from one area cover to another that there

was an enormous explosion.

Mo had his left arm blown off; his soundman, John Mathai was killed and his second cameraman, Nick Hughes suffered a perforated Buerk and myself escaped un-scathed. Mo, entirely in character, was determined to return to work. He was fitted with a bionic arm and had a television camera adapted to allow him to continue

In recognition of his courage and career. Mo Amin was awarded the MBE in 1992. It ways. Mo went on to film the East African Rally and paradoxically - given his long association with the BBC sold his first television footage to ITN. His life as a television new

scrapes and escapes. He was escaped from jail in Dar-es dents. Mo also had - most of the time — the happy knack of being in the right place when a story happened. He is of government planning minso quickly he was able to jump into the ambulance taking Mboya to hospital. Mo believed television jour-

turned on the shortcomings of governments. He also derived huge enjoyment from what he did. He used to tell, for exam-ple, of a trip to East Pakistan



Tragedy revealed . . . Amin filming Ethiopia's starving children. His pictures and Michael Buerk's words provoked an outcry

with Punorama. At the border, the team could go no further without transport.

Mo negotiated with fleeing refugees to buy the fire engine they were travelling on business. But Mo valued and petitor. He had survived so the fire and the fire gine they were travelling on

and his filming expedition
continued in somewhat unormore travel. Mo drove him
business. But Mo valued him business.

much — imprisonment, wars, car crashes — his friends were hoping that even this

time he would somehow wade ashore. He is survived by his wife, Dolly, and son, Salim.



Maria Casarès

Free spirit of the French stage

barefoot, climbing trees, cliss..." That freedom and that daring helped make her a stage legend. To have seen her in demanding, tragic roles was a privilege. It was also a

Maria was born into a Gali-cian family from La Coruna, in the far wild west of northern Spain, a region of stormy seas and shipwrecks reminis-cent of Ireland's west coast. Her father, Santiago Casarès Quiroga, a leftwing atheist, deled another Galician native, born just across the estuary at El Ferrol del Caudillo, Fran-cisco Franco, the *caudillo* in

When the tyrant finally lied, in 1975, Maria wept in what she called "a vast empty-ing-out of sadness" for all the trials her country had gone through. This period forms the opening of her magnifi-cent 1987 autobiography, Rési-dente privilégiés a work that stands comparison with Luis Bunuel's Mi ultimo sospiro and Roman Polanski's Roman. With the rise of Franco, the family emigrated to Paris,

stage, Maria knew instinctively: "This is my homeland." She won prizes for acting in both comedy and tragedy. Her first success came in a 1942 production of J M Synge's Deirdre of the Sor-rotes. In the audience was Albert Camus, who offered her a part in his play *Le Malentendu* (1943), and in his life.

Theirs was a long, idealistic, devoted companionship of two free spirits, legendary lovers, beautiful, intelligent and, in the end, tragic. "For me, he represented Man in every sense, in his vitality, passion, imagination, commitment to individual liberty of thought and speech... When he was killed, I felt the loss like an ful loneliness that made of me

to play Duburesu's wife Nathmis du Porodis. deceived and vengeful wife in tors became the Argentinian Maria Casares never Les Dames du Bois du Bou-logne (1944). She never really other favourite, Bernard So-tionality. When Franco died, 22, 1996

T WAS an upbringing during where Maria entered the Coning which Maria Casarès, servatoire and was taught memorable appearances as La La Colline, where one of the who has died aged 74, was stagecraft by the great classification of the bell officiated at Le Théâtra de in Rafael Alberti's El Adefision (Poppycock) and while it was one of her rare failures, it was in La Chartreuss de Parme (1947) and in the figure of Death as a femme fatale trying to seduce Jean Marais in Coctean's Orphée (1949) and Le Testament d'Orphée (1950). Casarès worked with Gé-

rard Philippe in the newly-formed Theatre National Populaire founded by Jean Vilar. She had spent a year or two at the Comedie Française, but she exchanged its well-orga-nised security for the perils of vagabond life with a young company of enthusiasts, in which she was to play all the great tragic parts. Her range was enormous, in a truly in-ternational repertoire that in-Kleist's Penthesilea (1973), and Valle Inclán's Comedias bar-

She sought out the experimental work of young Latin. American dramatists and directors: La Nuit de Madame A much bigger film part came Damonte), Dostoeski za à la plage (1985) by the Chilean Marco Antonio de la Parra; her way when Robert Bresson. plage (1986) by the Chilean who rarely used professional Marco Antonio de la Parra; actors, cast her as a sinister, and one of her favourite direc-

play, Jean Genet's Les Para-vents (The Screens) directed by Roger Blin (1966), a produc-tion that created a scandal now known as "the battle of Les Paravents", and played in a revival in 1988. In 1984 she of Genet's Les Bonnes. In 1990, she was playing Madame Performed the astounding feat of appearing during the mid-sec-tion of the play dressed as the Pope in Genet's posthumous satire Elle, a one-acter running in the studio theatre,

then returning to the main stage for her part in the fifth act of the Molière comedy.

Asked if she had difficulty changing from female to male and back, she replied: "For an actress, playing a man is just another performance. It is the humanity I seek, not the gender." Her most extraordinary 1993 King Lear in which she played the king himself — wigless, beardless, androgy-

nous, utterly compelling.

a true act of homage to her native land.

The French are fond of referring to their legendary stars as "sacred monsters". in life and acting, that she was no sacred cow: "All actors are monsters. They have to be, in order to change personality, change sex, every night on the rise of the cortain. They are monsters in the monstrous pleasure they take in playing at life in the limitless confinement of a theatre, supported by the often monstrous words of glorious texts. I have had the good fortune never to have been out of work, and to relish

Maria Casarès, actress, born No-

Patrick Johnson

A splash in physics

N OXFORD in the early 1930s, there were just six came a senior member of the came in rowing. This was held Group and assistant scientific by Patrick Johnson, who has died aged 92, and rowed in the 1927 Oxford boat.

Johnson went up to Magdalen College by way of Ton-bridge School and the Royal Naval colleges of Osborne and Dartmouth; and following the boat race and his graduation in physics, he was elected a fellow of Magdalen in 1928. fiths, the discoverer of Ferro-Seemingly tough and incisive, magnetic resonance, and later characteristics that may have been enhanced by his naval training, he commanded the respect of undergraduates who only later came to realise his reserve and shyness.

These went together with a deep sense of service. He was in the RAF Reserve 1929-1934, and the Territorial Army.

These went together with a deep sense of service. He was in the RAF Reserve 1929-1934, and the Territorial Army. who only later came to realise his reserve and shyness.

retirement in 1962, he worked extensively for the Educa-tional Foundation for Visual He never married, but al-

Maria Casarès . . . her vast range included Genet, Cocteau and an androgynous King Learnoen.

ways showed an exemplary courtesy towards women — a characteristic seen by an undergraduate audience in 1931, when his energetic writadviser to 21st Army Group under General Montgomery, he held the rank of lieutenanting on the blackboard caused his chalk to squeak and break, provoking his involuntary ex-clamation of "Oh, helli" fol-lowed by the realisation that colonel, and was awarded an In the meantime, he had become Dean of Magdalen, and on his return in 1946 he was there were women undergradmade vice-president. His physwhom he made the blushing and bewildering apology: ics pupils included JHE Grif-"Sorry, I meant damn!" Innately modest, he was

magnetic resonance, and later president of Magdalen. true English gentleman; and his final hope was that his In 1947, feeling that he could no longer keep up with the advance of front-line

R V Jones

Patrick Johnson, physicist, born

scientific adviser to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers A: H Williams

Welsh history seen clearly

ITH HIS two-volume Introduction to Welsh W History, first pub-lished in 1941, A H Williams, who has died aged 89, demonstrated a mastery of the sub-ject and clarity of thought and content which, combined with a most readable style, put generations of students in his debt.

the University of Wales, Ban-gor, and, under the supervi-sion of Sir John E LLoyd, Dr Tom Richards and Dr RT Jenkins, wrote an out-standing thesis, published in 1935 as Welsh Wesleyon Meth-odism 1800-1858 which became a classic and marked the beginning of his lifelong interest in the subject.

He helped set up a historical society and a journal,
Bathafarn, which he edited

for many years. He also a superb lecturer, a versatile backed the establishment of musician — he played organ Treddol's Museum of Welsh and conducted at singing fes-Methodism. He also became an authority on the founder of Methodism, John Wesley, played cricket for the county editing and writing the intro- of Denbigh. In retirement, he duction to John Wesley In visiting every county cricket Wales 1739-1790 which was ground in England and Wales

published in 1971. Williams's career was spent in education. He began as a history teacher in the Gwendraeth coal valley in Carmarthenshire before be-coming, at 27, headmaster of Brynhyfryd Grammar School, Ruthun in the Vale of Clwyd. After the war he was appointed a King's inspector in Wales, his profession's highest accolade and by the time of his retirement in 1971was one of the key figures in the inspectorate. Williams was exceptional, 13, 1996

tivals - skilled in crafts a great sportman who had while supporting

Glamorgan:
His wife Anne predeceased him. One of his few unfulfilled ambitions was to write a cookery book. It would have been a bestseller, for his family and friends, maintain that his cherry cake was in a class of its own.

D Ben Rees

Albert Hughes Williams, teacher and historian, born March 13, 1907; died Octobe

Birthdays

Prof Margaret Boden, philosopher and psychologist, 60; Paul Burnett, disc jockey, 53; Lord Forte, hoteier, president, Forte plc, 88; Robert Goulet, singer and actor, 63; Lord Gowrie, chairman, Arts Council of England, 57; John Gummer MP, Secretary of State for the Environment, 57; John Hendry, co-director, Design Museum, 41; Prof Sir Harry Hinsley, historian, wartime codebreaker, former master, St John's, Cambridge, 78; The Most Rev Richard Holloway, Bishop of Edin-burgh and Primus of the Scottish Episcopal Church, 63; John McVle, rock musi-cian, 51; Lord (John) Moore, former Conservative minister, 59; Jim Mullen, jazz guitarist, 51; Sir George Onigley, chairman, Illetor jazz gustarist, 51; 51; George Quigley, chairman, *Ulster* Bank, 67; Joyce Quin, Labour MP, 52; Charles Schuitz, Cartoonist, creator of Peanuts, 74; Lord Strath-cons and Mount Royal,

President, Falkland Islands Trust, 73; Barbara Switzer. trade union leader, 56; Art Themen, saxophonist, 57; Tina Turner, rock singer, 58; Keith Vaz, Labour MP, 40; Peter Wheeler, rugby footballer, 48.

Death Notices

BRILLIANT, Seren Marjorie, died on 186 November 1858 aged 32 Ceremony will be held on Wednesday 27th, 2.50ps, a Golders Green Cramatorium, London NW11, and stharwards at Billy Lowe Less All her Irlands are welcome but on Sower's

In Memoriam

SCRE, Franco. You'll slways be in my thoughts and in my heart, John.

Memorial Services

To place your announcement telephone 017; 713 4567. Pax 0171 713 4129.

Jackdaw



Holy how

DEAR Sirs, I hear once there was almighty God who lived in Heaven up in the skies and he made a girl called Miss Diana Byles and placed her on earth below — 8,000,000 years ago - and it seemed to me, that he being here on earth now, might be presentable at the Palladium as up in his Heaven singing songs on stage - to an audience of the type he sang to her to keep her happy while she was here, below, His signature tune is the number that told the words — to see a little bluebird one day "I'm Always Chasing Rainbows". Other

numbers he sang to her are

those of the Red, Red Robin" (sic) type and like "April Showers" including "California here I come" etc. It should go down quite well? A letter sent to the London

Tourist trade

THAI women are noted for their grace, gentility, politeness and caring nature. They are also caring mothers and meticulous housewives who make perfect life compan-ions. No wonder a lot of foreign gentlemen fancy marrying Thai women. If you are among them contact Mr. Preecha. He speaks fluent English and therefore will understand your personal needs. After the initial interview, you can purchase a oneyear membership card for a nominal fee, which entitles

you to view his video recording of selected Thai women. If you need translation service, marriage registration passport or visa assistance. they can have the job done in the shortest possible time. An example of Thai trade, ExBangkok Visitors Guide. in Australia.

Trip-ups

WORKERS of Europe, tonight I am going to tell you how to help the Allies beat the Hun in your workplace. You might not think it but you can help get the Hun on run just as well at your factory bench as the troops can at the front. This is what you do: "Take out your tools and bang them on your benches, till you've

blunted the tips." "The semen has got to be got to its users quickly. It will be flown to the purchasers by BOAC, in vacuum flasks surrounded by liquid nitrogen. And if the precious semen needs attention during a long flight, BOAC has very kindly arranged for its captains to top

up the flasks .. to a famous beef cattle ranch in Argentina, where the semen, from prize British dairy bulls, will be used to boost milk production. Local demand for milk is rising. "The other day of something

hospital, so we sent Tim Bowden along with a rape recorder to find out." Reader Dick Oliver remembers certain jewels produced on air during the time he worked at the

BBC World Service.

They mean . .

 THIS needs some minor revision.
I never actually got around to reading this.

• My office hours are by ap-

pointment only. like to get out of here early. Ten percent of your grade is based on class participation. I'll be fudging your grades.

This won't be on the test. Nap time!

Bring the text to class. I don't have a clue how to lec-ture—we'll just kill time with group read-alongs.

The tests will all be multi-

ole-choice. take questions directly from the study guide and have grad students do all my grading. What professors say and what they octually mean. The Usual Suspects listserver joining in at education bashing.

Bad days WHAT HAVE Ten little Nig-

ger Boys Got To Do With Petrol? Well, "ten little nigger boys" and Regent Petrol have one thing in common — they both "evaporate by degrees". But this is as far as the comparison goes. With the nigger boys the "degrees" match the dictates of fate, with Regent they match the dictates of the engine which demands the correct degree of evaporation for instantaneous starting. rapid warming up, lively acceleration and maximum economy. This balanced volatility is just one more charac-teristic which will help you enjoy better motoring when Regent branded petrol once more returns. Sterling Quality. Pride remembers advertising's not so old good old days.

Way we know

"COULD you hurry, please" Mr Ransome said, "this is an emergency." "So is this, dear," said the woman. "I'm calling Padstow only they're not answering."

"I want to call the police,"

said Mr Ransome. "Been attacked, have you?" said the woman. "I was attacked last week. days. He was only a toddier. It's ringing but there's a long corridor. They tend to have a hot drink about this time. They're nuns," she said

explanatorily.
"Nuns?" said Mr Ransome. 'Are you sure they won't



Pride . . . inflammatory ad

have gone to bed?" "No, they're up and down all night having the services

There's always somebody about." She went on listening to the phone ringing in Cornwall. "Can't it wait?" asked
Mr Ransome, seeing his effects halfway up the M1.
"Sneed is of the assence." Speed is of the essence.

"I know," said the old lady,
"whereas nuns have got all
the time in the world. That's the beauty of it except when it coms to answering the phone. I aim to go on retreat there in May."
"But it's only February,"

Mr Ransome said, "I "
"They get booked up." explained the old lady. "There's no talking and three meals a day so do you wonder? They use it as a holiday home for religious of both sexes. You wouldn't think nuns needed holidays. Prayer doesn't take it out of you. Not like bus conducting. Still ringing. They've maybe finished their hot drink and adjourned to the chapel. I suppose I could ring later only ... "She looked at the coins waiting in Mr Ransome's hand. "Tye put my money in now." Mr Ran-

some gave her a pound and she took the other 50p be-sides, saying "You don't need money for 999." She put the reciever down and the money came back of

its own accord, but Mr Ran-

some was so anxious to get on with his call he scarcely noticed. It was only later, sitting on the floor of what had been their bedroom that he said out loud: "Do you remember Button A and Button B? They've gone, you know. I never noticed." "Everything's gone," said Mrs Ransome, not catching his drift, "the air freshener, the soap dish. They can't be

human; I mean they've even taken the lavatory brush." Extract from fom Alan Bennet's short story entitled The Clothes They Stood Up In. printed in the London Review

Jackdaw wants jewels. E-mail jackdaw@gwardian.co.uk; fax 0171-713 4366; Jackdaw, The Guardian, 119 Farringdon Road, London ECIR 3ER.

Emily Sheffield

Financial Editor: Alex Brummer Telephone: 0171-239-9610 Fax: 0171-833-4456

Finance Guardian

Boardrooms under fire ● Former chairman attacks 'greed' ● Anger over directors' bonus deal

Salvesen denounced for £150m 'giveaway'

FORMER chairman and family share-holder of Christian Salvesen, Sir Gerald the transport group's plans to distribute £150 million to shareholders as "destructive manipulations for the benefit

of Stock Exchange punters".

Sir Gerald, who spent his whole working life at the company, started by his forebears nearly 150 years ago, and who still holds a 2 per cent share stake, said he was so shocked at yesterday's restructuring proposals that "I question whether the board

is fit to carry on".

He described the payout as "the result of City greed which is the easiest and quickest way to destroy Brit-



ish industry". Sir Gerald added that he was looking at ways of mounting an investor

The former chairman, who retired in 1968, took the un-usual step of mounting a public attack after Salvesen loined the growing number of

dend". It comes on top of the interim dividend, up 8.6 per

The company is also plan-ning a demerger of its Ag-greko power supply rental op-eration from its main transport business. This will be floated off as a separate company worth an estimated \$400 million to \$500 million.

The payout follows promises by Salvesen to look at ways of "improving share-holder value" after it beat off a summer £1 billion takeover

a summer 21 miled takeover approach from rivel distribution group, Hays.

But Sir Geneli claimed that the company was pandering to the "short-term profit demands" of institutions which would have seen the value of their takes. their shares soar if the Hays bid had gone through. "The board is concerned

that if it does not go along with this bizarre blackmail, the share price will fall sharply and a predator will turn up to whom those insti-tutional shareholders will be ready to sell," he said. He warned that the payout

could "slaughter" the company's prospects, pointing out that the proposed £150 million represented 50 per cent of Salen's net asset value. 'In other words, the board

ls proposing to repay to shareholders half the capital on which the company de-pends for its growth and prosperity. To find the cash, the board proposes to increase its borrowings substantially

borrowings substantially, bringing them to a debt/ equity ratio of around 159 per cent," he said.

Sir Gerald added that the proposed demerger of Aggreko would result in the loss of management akills and financial support. "I cannot see that Aggreko will make more months and grow better as an Sir Gerald Ellot profits and grow better as an independent company than within Salvesen," he said. And he claimed that the

cost of carrying out the shake-up could result in fees of between £15 million and £20 million for financial advisers. shake-up while disclosing that pre-tax profits for the half year to 30 September had increased by more than 14 per cent to £51.6 million. It said it

back to shareholders.
Salvesen investors will get dividends worth about 54.8p said: "That these are radical and far-reaching proposals is when effected, the payment of a £50 million | undoubted. When effected, "enhanced dividend", our shareholders' assets will together with a further £100 be entirely reshaped and



Allen Lloyd: critics say they will wait for his exit from the company

Lloyds Chemist hit by ethics row

room ethics surfaced yesterday after it emerged that directors of Lloyds Chemist, led by founder and chalman Allen Lloyd, restructured their pay packages in advance of fresh

Institutional investors are considering raising the matwould listen carefully to the

considering raising the mat-ter at the company's annual meeting, which is due to take place today.

Mr Lloyd and four other di-rectors stand to pocket at least £3 million if and when takeover offers from either Unichem or German rival

"Certainly, we are tempted to kick up a stink," one lead-ing fund manager said yesterday, referring to generous executive pay rises and the replacement of a share option scheme with a long-term executive incentive plan which was installed without share-

holder approval. But he said that public criticism of Lloyds directors was unlikely. "As things stand, with two bids on the table, we might as well sit and wait for Mr Lloyd to leave the public company scene. He has never got on with the City, and now it is almost over." r, a Lloyds spokes-

man said the directors' current agreements were put in



followed by an approach from Gehe in January

In March, the takeover offers were referred to the competition authorities, causing both to lapse. The two bids were then retabled after a green light from the Depart-ment of Trade and Industry last month.

The incentive scheme allows for up to 50 per cent of each director's salary to be each director's salary to be paid into a trust, with the money distributed if, after three years, shares in Lloyds Chemist have outperformed the FTSE all Share Index. Under guidelines set out in enbury code of corporate ethics, such incentive plans should be approved by

place during the summer of in December from UniChem,

Mr Lawson's pre-election

tax cuts merely stoked up the boom and made a mockery of

his modest-sounding fore-

casts. Growth soared to

Dressing up the tax model France hopes to redeem of Romanovs

REMEMBER Tear Alex-ander I? Quite a few

4.6 per cent, and consumer spending expanded by 5.3 per cent. Mr Lawson blamed duff statistics for the errors which Milner.
Just who will settle the sowed the seeds of the late 1980s boom-bust cycle. By the time of Norman Ladebts of the Tear Alexander and his successors — the mont's second Budget in 1992, the Government had the opposite problem.

An inquiry into the data during the late 1980s had made recommendations to en-

sure the Treasury never got it so badly wrong again. But the official machine still failed to grasp the full, dreadful impact of the slump. Mr Lamont, searching for the "green shoots" of recovery, predicted rises of 1.0 per cent in consumer spending and GDP. But the economy con-

tracted by 0.5 per cent and spending by 0.1 per cent. Mr Lamont's forecasts for Mr Lamont's forecasts for public borrowing were also seriously awry, with the projected £28 billion deficit in 1992-3 ending up as a 236.3 billion shortfall. Here, though, the feeling was that this was less a genuine mistake than a juggling of the figures to justify the £2 billion tax cut which followed.

With the economy settling down, forecasting has become easter. But the imminence of polling day means that the

polling day means that the temptation to put a gloss on the data becomes much stron-ger. Look out for some deft intilliste brushwork from

Other games for a Budget's eve



Edited by Alex Brummer

the Budget is a do nothing time on the financial markets. However, this time, as the Chancellor put his final touches to the last there were some rather larger issues occupying the minds of traders and analysts,

Plainly, the weekend's events in Brussels, when the lira slipped back into the exchange-rate mechanism at a sider ambitious, had an effect on the pound. As the most healthy of the Euro-econo-mies outside the ERM and the one offering the most con-vincing yields, London is now regarded as a safe haven and alternative to the ERM core.

This is a development which took sterling to some which took sterling to some dizzy heights, trading at 2.5477 against the German mark and 1.6825 against the dollar, before dealers squared their books while awaiting the Chancellor.

The strength of the normal

The strength of the pound has not made Mr Clarke's task any easier. Business is increasingly disturbed by the

soaraway pound.
It is one thing if your currency is the US dollar and it rises 34 per cent against the yen, because the overseas sec-tor of the American economy

is comparatively modest. But it is quite another when each rise in the pound means potential grief for exporters. Possibly Mr Clarke's promise in the Commons — that the UK will not shadow the euro. leaving open the possibility of future depreciation — may help in the run-up to the

Then there is the stock market. The FTSE has moved more than 100 points up in pre-Budget trading, during a period when investors nor mally take few risks. The conventional wisdom is that this has come about because Ken Clarke will steer clear of the giveaways and deliver a cau-tious budget, with an im-proved public sector borrow-

ing requirement.
Such forecasts are as much dust on Budget day as are the economic out-turns in the Red Book. A far more plausible reason for the stock market's buoyancy is the extraordinary rally on Wall Street, which has gathered momentum since President Clinton's re-election on November 5. The market is up 15 per cent since September, and 8 per cent in the last five weeks. This has activated an equity buying panic, with share prices running ahead of what can be justified by either

value or earnings.
Estimates used by economists at the US Federal Reserve board suggest that, at present levels on Dow, ahead of fundamentals.

by this mis-pricing of assets, dares say a word publicly. To do so with the authority of Alan Greenspan would be to take responsibility for any subsequent crash.

During this bull market London has perhaps paced itself better than New York, and is likely to be a beneficiary of mutual-funds money from the US.

However, should Wall Street start to correct itself at present levels that could be sparked by anything from an interest-rate hike to further buoyancy in the oil price— then the City will be seeking cover, too.

Short-terminal

R Gerald Elliot must be the only substantial shareholder in the history of the Stock Exchange who has ever publicly complained about a company being too generous towards its investors. And as such, the former chairman of Christian Salvensen's protests about the running of the transport company will carry consider-

able extra weight.
In essence, Sir Gerald is accusing Salvesen, where he spent his entire working life, of kowtowing to institutional demands for short-term

Instead of husbanding resources for long-term growth, Sir Gerald claims that Salvesen is trying to curry favour with investors by divvying out £150 million of cash it cannot afford. The result will be a one-off 58p a share windfall for all investors. But it will also overload the balance sheet with a debt to equity ratio of around

150 per cant.
His charges carry particu-lar resonance as the company itself admits that this bo-nanza was a direct result of the abortive £1 billion takeover approach from rival Hays, earlier this summer. But whereas Salvensen value to sharebold Gerald asserts that it is jeopardising its entire future by pendering to what he describes as the "greed" of stock

If Sir Gerald manages to drum up enough support, this could develop into a land-mark battle over short-termism within the City.

Banking order

MONG the main reasons for the City's modern dominance as a financial centre is the invention of ket by the Greek-born banking guru, Minos Zombanakis and his colleagues during the 1970s - a market which now raises \$250 billion a year. Small wonder, then, that Bank of England Governor Eddie George was on hand when Mr Zombankis received bood - Commander of the special Mayfair reception amid London's gridlocked traffic last Friday. The Club prices are running 20 per cent | Med countries_clearly have thead of fundamentals.

Despite this, no one at the Rurope, after all.

Budget hopes push up pound

BURST of eve-of-Budget City optimism sent the pound and UK stocks sharply up yesterday as dealers banked on Chancellor steady-as-she-goes" package this afternoon.

With a soaring Wall Street also lifting the London market, the FTSE 100 index closed up 36 points at 4054.6. At one point the pound reached DM2.5477 and \$1.6825 before profit-taking and position-squaring clipped it back to DM2.5380 and \$1.6695.

Adam Chester, an econ mist at the brokers Yamaichi, "The market is taking heart from signs that Mr Clarke will not deliver tax

FTSE 100 3,700 Others said a prudent Budget would strengthen the next meets Bank of England governor Eddie George to dis-

cuss monetary policy.
"If Clarke gives the market a tight Budget, he might just get away with not raising rates at all," said David Cole-man, chief economist at the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce.

plumping for a relatively modest ip cut in the basic rate of income tax — at a cost of just under £2 hillion — which they said should allow a voter-friendly presentation without stoking market fears about the public finances.
Mr Chester said equity

dealers were also pleased by confirmation of a government debate on European mone-tary union. They just want an end to the uncertainty," he

in Italy, the markets reacted calmly but none too enthusiastically to the end of enthusiastically to the end of uncertainty about the lira's membership of the exchange rate mechanism. The effect of re-entry was difficult to disentangle, however, from the impact of a request for the indictment of the prime minister, Romano Prodi.

On Sunday, the EU's finance ministers and central nance ministers and central bankers agreed to give the Italian currency a central parity of 990 to the German

mark. After being knocked off balance by the latest political shock, the lira ended the day

LARRY ELLIOTT charts the history of to 27 pence. But the Chancel-lor had underestimated the strength of demand. artistic touches to past Budgets

presented to Parliament by the Chancellor today will be the handiwork of some of the brightest brains of a generation and a model stuffed with equations of mind-boggling complexity.
Yet the predictions for in-flation, growth and the current account will not be the

raw data spewing out of the Treasury model; they will in-stead be the judgements of mandarins and politicisms. Not to put too fine a point on it, the Budget forecasts are subject to artistic licence, and when an election is in the off-ing this can be of a standard that would grace an exhibi-tion of French Impressionists. Consider, for example, Reg-gie Maudling's Budget in April 1964 — presented at a time when the Conservatives were trying to claw back Har-old Wilson's large poll lead.

Mr Mandling did his bit by conjuring up a colossal boom in which all the economic

levers were set for expension. But there was little hint of

"HE economic forecasts | creased capital outflow with a deterioration in the current account will mean a worsen-ing of the overall balance of payments this year", Mau-

dling intoned.
"Provided it is temporary, this should give rise neither to alarm nor dismay, and it would be very foolish of anyone to proclaim that it Despite the Chancellor's call for killjoys to pipe down.

the economy simply could not cope with the excessive demand. Inflation was 4 per cent and climbing by the election. The current account plunged into deep deficit in 1964, leaving the Wilson gov-ernment with a balance of payments headache from which it never recovered. Move on 23 years: another boom. In the spring of 1987, the economy had had six years of growth, south-east

house prices were rising strongly and financial deregu-lation was lubricating a surge in consumer spending.
Three months before the election, Nigel Lawson an-nounced a 2p reduction in the standard rate of income tax,

any such recklessness in his hudes speech. "The combination of an in-

WEB WISE

in a per sell de service, i querdien writers and tex specialises roop accountints. Coopers & Lybrand will a suster greatigns about the Budget on the internet. He suster greatigns about the Budget on the Guardian web site internet greating and the Guardian web site internet greating in the Guardian web site internet great greating in the suster greating and greatin

the red legacy

French people do. Their forebears lent him money. Now, 124 years later, they could get it back - well, a bit of it anyway, writes Mark

Romanovs carried on borrowing large sums of money from French inves-tors until they were removed from the Russian throne during the First World War — is unclear.
But the governments of
Russia and France are talk-Russia and France are talk-ing repayment, although the Russians still aren't ad-mitting liability for Tsarist fiscal excess. Security is tight. Trading in the bonds has been suspended on the Paris Bourse, just in case any price-sensitive infor-mation lasks out nation leaks out. Not that trade is usually

brisk. The bonds — covering more than 60 loans made to the Russian authorities until 1917 — tend to trade on their curiousity value. They are more likely to turn up in antique shops or flea markets than on the Bourse.

Although the face value

of the bonds and accrued interest is huge— 218 billion by one count— no one should hold their breath. Most of the bonds have been lost and analysts reckon those that are paid will get only a few centimes

Shell comes clean to its green critics

HELL failed to gauge public concerns accurately during the Brent Spar row, the oil company confessed at a meeting with politicians and environmentalists last night.

The company also accepted have pointed out that international that it had been concerned about sustainable develophave private meetings with ment and climate change.

"We have no option but to pursue the goal of sustainable development," said Shell UK chairman and chief executive

Chris Fay. "It does seem in-creasingly probable that manmade carbon dioxide, largely from fossil fuels, may affect

Mr Fay told last night's Shell announces its recognition of the carbon arithmetic and the beginning of the end public concerns over disposal of the oil industry."

of the Brent Spar oil platform.
"We were clearly insufficiently sensitive to public concerns and the need for wider discussions." Some 200 people from vari-ous stakeholder groups were

invited to the meeting in a welcomed by critics, who have pointed out that interna-

night on climate change are of environmentalists. hear that they are getting out of oil in the light of climate change. But I'll be surprised if

TOURIST RATES - BANK BELLS Australia 2.01
Canada 2.20
Coprus 0.7475
India 60.01
Denmark 9.53
Finland 7.61
India 60.9705
India 60.975
India 60.975
Sundi Arabia 8.27
Sweden 11.01
Switzerland 2.07
Turkey 162,363
USA 1.8450

MoD sells Rosyth for £25m Merrydown's profits hit by



David Falmed

tional yesterday lion of work for the Rosyth naval dockto buy control of the yard from the Ministry of Defence. The group — which has nanaged Rosyth for the MoD since 1987 - concluded two years of talks with the Gov-ernment with a deal believed to be worth about \$25 million. But to clinch the agree-ment, Defence Secretary Michael Portillo has had to

agree to a 10-year "allocated"

cludes relitting two aircraft carriers and a pair of nuclear powered hunter-killer submarines - work valued at about 2500 million.

The submarine contracts will keep the Scottish dockvard in the nuclear business for some years yet, after los ing out to Devenport to build a refitting facility for the navy's Trident ballistic missile submarines. The Bab cock yard's allocated prodestroyers, frigates and a va-riety of smaller warships.

Announcing the sale in a speech to the Scottish Grand Committee in Cupar, Fife, yesterday, Mr Portillo said it vould save £100 million of taxpayer's money over 10 dockyard for the New Zealand

years. He added that the deal should be signed by Christmas, with Babcock taking possession of the yard early venture with Siemens. force, which lobbied the meetrailway depots contribute £80 ing, was wary about Mr Pormillion to a total annual turn-

union convenor, said: "It's a good day for Rosyth. At least we have a chance to secure our own future. Under the MoD we had none." Privatisation means that managing its future success. 3,200 MoD employees will for Bahcock Rosyth Defence,

The division also runs a

tillo's pledges, Brian Negus,

Navy in Auckland, under a and two former British Rail maintenance depots pur

"We are delighted to have ecured ownership of the facility," the division's manag ing director, Allan Smith, said, "and look forward to

"Since Babcock took ove of the Rosyth dockyard, the group has considerably in-creased the yard's productivity. As a result, we have achieved significant improve-ments in the refitting of submarines and surface ships, while continuing to build a profitable operation."

According to Mr Smith, the company's success at Rosyth has enabled it to secure other business in the UK and New Zealand and win competitive tenders for projects around

 The Defence Secretary also announced that, subject to Parliamentary approval, his department will receive £220 million from the Government's contingency reserve in 1996/97 to meet the costs of British ground forces in Bosnia over the past two years, plus a further £24 million to pay for the UK air component of the Nato peace implemen-

OUTLOOK/ Fizz leaves Two Dogs brewer, reports Lisa Buckingham

T TAKES no particular feat of memory to recall the drubbing given by the stock market to the shares of cider maker Matthew Clark. Then the wounds in-flicted on the performance of Clark's major brands, Diamond White and K, were blamed on the success of socalled "alcopops" — fizzy drinks which allow alcohol to be introduced into the bloodsystem while by-passing the

Yesterday there was an-other stock market drubbing. This time for Mr Clark's far smaller rival, Merrydown. But investor displeasure stemmed not so much from fears that cider is being eclipsed by alcopops but from concerns that the latest drinks craze may be ebbing.

Merrydown is responsible for Two Dogs, the second most popular alcoholic lemonade in the country — after Bass's Hooper's Hooch. Two Dogs, created in Australia, is estimated to have between 10 and 20 per cent of the alcopops' market.

Despite being less than two years old sales of alcopops are believed to be worth around £300 million a year. That is, of course, a juicy enough financial target to attract plenty of entrants and it is estimated that Two Dogs now faces competition from 90 other alcopop brands. But the rush into the market has coincided with a sharp fall in the rate of alcopope sales

This has caused problems for Merrydown; hitting sales of Two Dogs. So, on a smaller revenue base, Merrydown has been forced to spend more to keep the brand at the fore-

effort cost about £750,000, yet income from the brand fell. Variations on the original brand are being introduced in an effort to rekindle sales growth. But clearly this costs money. And Merrydown's half-year figures also had to absorb the impact of a programme of discounts on the canned Two Dogs to allow the variant to be introduced.

Merrydown refuses to provide a breakdown of its sales of alcoholic drinks which were up by more than 11 per cent. It is plain, however, that ciders such as Merrydown Vintage and Pulse produced strong growth, raising the company's share of the UK cider market from 4 per cent to 4.7 per cent.

But although sales ruse profits did not. Unexpectedly heavy demand for Pulse the extra strong white cider - forced the company, which trails a distant third in the cider market to Clark and HP Bulmer, to buy in hugely ex-pensive imported apple juice

Without the effect of the one-off setbacks Merrydown reckons its first half would have been far closer to last year's levels. That would have made the ability to cover its interest charges look a lot healthier. Although, to be fair, gearing has fallen substantially and interest cover should begin to look less ex-posed with a modest second-

What Merrydown now needs is a fair wind from the Chancellor in today's budget coupled with reasonable consumer expenditure in the lead up to Christmas. The company will also look less grim if the January re-stock by pubs and off-licences is brisk and if there is a rather quicker roll out of its draught cider deal with Whithread. But it still remains an ex-

in the drinks market and Merrydown's "recovery" is looking decid-

Produces a range of ciders Including Manydown Pulso, is

2.0

Profit analysis 6 months, £m Share price (p)

16.7 CROSSING CARLESTON CONTRACTOR CON

News in brief

Other 0.7

Amey and McAlpine share tram contract

A £175 MILLION contract to build the 17-mile Croydon Tram-A £175 MILLION contract to build the 17-mile Croydon Tram-link system in south London over the next three years has been awarded jointly to a consortium including the construction firms Amey and Sir Robert McAlpine. The consortium, which also includes the Royal Bank of Scotland, has also been awarded a 99-year concession by London Transport to operate

the service.

The Government will provide a grant of £125 million. Amey's chairman, Nell Ashley, said part of the grant would be paid to the consortium and part to London Transport for its share in the construction work. Thereafter the consortium would have to run it without a subsidy. — Kelth Harper

Duke's £4.6bn gas fusion

DUKE Power Company, the US utility that considered buying British Energy with the Government earlier this year, yesterday bought PanEnergy Corp for \$7.7 billion (£4.6 billion) in stock, combining one of America's largest natural gas companies with one of the biggest electric utilities. The new company will be known as Duke Energy Corporation.—Bloomberg

Sketchley develops outlets

SKETCHLEY, which reported a half-year profit rise from £4.3 million to £4.8 million, plans to have 200 joint dry cleaner/SupaSnaps outlets open in Sainsbury stores over the next three years. Chief executive John Jackson said: "We believe that convenience is very important where they [consumers] park and drop off their clothes fairly easily."

In the first half Sketchley opened eight outlets in Sainsbury stores and plans to have a further 20 by March 1997. — Tony May

Carlton buys Action Time

MICHAEL Green's Carlton Communications yesterday topped off its weekend takeover of the Westcountry franchise by announcing another TV acquisition — the purchase of the producnouncing another TV acquisition — the purchase of the produc-tion company Action Time. The company — which boasts a roster of mainly game show programming such as Through the Keyhole and Catchphrase — is being acquired for £3.55 million but Carlton is liable to a further £4.3 million of performance payments. Carlton already had a 15 per cent stake in Action Time. Most of Cariton already had a 15 per cent stake in Action Time. Most of Action Time's equity is owned by its three directors, who will remain with the group despite being a collective £2.8 million richer. — Lisa Buckingham

Dissidents on **Emap board** win strong ally

Lisa Buckinghum

HE two non-executives fighting for survival in the boardroom of media group Emap yesterday won powerful backing when the investment adviser. Pirc. recommended that resolutions to oust the dissidents be

The rest of the Emap board, led by chairman Sir John Hoskyns, are supporting reso Ken Simmonds and Joe Cook as non-executives at an extraordinary meeting in a

Divisions over changes to the group's articles of association — making it easier to sack non-executives and to reduce their number on the board — have plagued Emap since the early summer.

Professor Simmonds and Mr Cook, who have a combined 28 years with the comarticles because they feared it would weaken the position of sion issue is resolved." non-executives. They are now under threat and, until Pirc's intervention, seemed to have little shareholder support.

Pirc has weighed in behind mine the process of selecting a new chairman for the cause tensions over the posi-

The advisory group also managing director.

contention that allowing a di-rector to be removed on a 73

reflects current practice. Pirc suggests that most large companies refuse to allow directors to be sacked unless shareholders vote in favour of cent of the board agrees.

The investment adviser says that removing the two non-executives would "establish a damaging precedent" that could undermine the independence of directors and discourage them from challenging decisions taken by

Pirc added: "The underly ing dispute regarding succes sion at Emap is fundamental to the company's future development. Two experienced and long-standing non-executives have a proper contribution to make to the resolution of this dispute. It is not in shareholder interests that they be removed before the succes-

Sir John has indicated to shareholders that he regards chief executive Robin Miller as a natural successor.

But Pirc says there should them, arguing that their be debate about whether a removal would be damaging company due to join the in corporate governance FTSE-100 should have an exment of Mr Miller could also tion of David Arculus, who is

Takeover rocks **Swedish politics**

HIGH level row has bro ken out over plans for a ca billion merger which could transform Sweden's flnancial services industry. The proposed takeover by Insurance group Skania of mortgage bank Stadshypotek, in which the state has a 34 per cent stake, immediately come under fire from finance

minister Eric Asbrink. Yesterday, Mr Asbrink said he found it "remarkable" that the board of Stadshypotek should have gone ahead with the merger proposal, knowing that the government was al-ready planning to sell its holding. "I have no confidence in the present board of directors of Stadshypotek,"

The finance ministry "has already received preliminary interest from potential indus-trial buyers in Sweden and in-

the takeover because the buyer of the government's stake would be well-placed to make or break the deal.

cant cost-savings, and they will also be seeking to sell their products to each others' customers. Together Skania and Stadshypotek have some two million customers. Enskilda Securities analyst

ternationally. The govern-ment will continue the he said that it would take a

Before Mr Asbrink's move, some analysts suggested that the Skania bid could open the way to further takeovers in the sector. 'This is the break in the log-jam — others will follow," said one yesterday. Others have not ruled out the possibility of a rival bid for Stadshypotek, though the board of the mortgage bank is backing the Skania bid terms.

The companies expect the merger to generate signifi-

Anders Breger sald the level of the Skania bid left the door open to counter-offers and pointed to Nordbanken and Handelsbanken as the most likely candidates to compete for Stadshypotek. However. helty premium for an alterna-



Clinton salutes Apec trade deal

Nick Cumming-Bruce

RESIDENT Clinton a summit of 18 Asian and Pacific Rim countries yesterday claiming to have won "a big deal" by persuading them to accept the year 2000 as a target date for introducing free trade in information technology.

The agreement provided

tive in a commitment by leaders of the Asia-Pacific Economic Co-operation (Apec) more liberal trade among a

US officials bailed Mr Clin-ton's success in persuading ready worth \$100 billion not ready we will not have to Apec leaders to adopt a dead-(253 billion) a year and two submit to the deadline." line for cutting tariffs on in-formation technology that their ministers had earlier resisted — even with the let-outs provided by the carefully hedged language of the lead-

ers' statement. This called for the conclusion of an information technology agreement by next month's ministerial meeting of the World Trade Organisa-tion "that would substantially

tion "that would successed eliminate tariffs by the year eliminate tariffs by the year eliminate tariffs by the year Mr Clinton said the agree-

The US assistant trade representative, Jay Ziegler, said "what this language means is that ... the 123 member countries of the WTO will have an obligation to reduce tariffs to zero on substantially all products in the informa-

(263 billion) a year and two million US jobs in the sector.

minister, Mahathir Moha deadline is "not binding

tion technology landscape". However, Malaysia's prime

ent 33 per cent to 15 per cent, although the product range has yet to be settled. • The European Commission said EU telecoms companies will gain access to the 36 billion South Korean tele-communications equipment agreement. Firms will now compete on an equal footing with US firms. - Bloomberg

mad, expressed satisfaction with the final wording be-cause of its flexibility. The means it depends on the abili-ties of countries concerned to

Mr Asbrink's intervention tive bidder to win over Stad-group accounting for more places a question mark over shypotek's board and its staff. I than half of world production. The production will be producted by the production of the places a question mark over shypotek's board and its staff.

Cement roof' blocks potential corporate high-fliers

WORKFACE/Ethnic barriers costing Britain dear, says MARTYN HALSALL

law finals at Birmingham discrimination is beginning to fade, but may still be plications for posts as an costing British industry articled clerk, and was the billions of pounds. The only person in her year not "black pound" — the marto be offered a job.

AMLESH Bahl knows all too keenly the ugly it doesn't matter how qualiface of racial discrimities Commission. "But it doesn't matter how qualified you are, if you don't get fied you are, if you don't get nation in the British work-place. She came third der," she says. She believes that such

ket supported by the ethnic Eventually she found employment with the now-defunct Greater London is being lost where gaps council and 20 years later exist between companies she has become the chair-woman of the Equal Oppor-Research by the Race for rejected "tokenism" and

Opportunity campaign has found some advertising for degrees and gaining shown bow British compalinages offensive. nies are losing business as people from the ethnic minorities feel alienated by corporate employment and marketing policies.

Backed by a long list of leading companies — including Midland Bank, BT and British Airways - it reported recently that the appeal of mainstream brands and high street convenience stores was undermined by "feelings of exclusion caused by advertising messages, product ranges, customer services and employment policies". Advertising still ignored ethnic minorities, who

"The sense of exclusion is reinforced by wider feel-lngs of prejudice and rejec-tion, based on practical ex-periences of discrimination, particularly in employment," the report

Evidence suggests that "ethnic" families, who make up 5.5 per cent of the population — a figure set to reach 11 per cent in the next 50 years — steer their children away from corpo-rate careers and towards the professions. Discrimination was a major factor.

It found proportionately more young people in ethnic communities studying ager said black people were able to us,"

higher A level qualifica-tions than among whites. Yet youngsters from ethnic likely to be unemployed. Another report, commis

sloned by the African and Caribbean Finance Forum and published last week, found that ethnic underrepresentation was extreme at all levels of management and representation no greater than 0.5 per cent in any sector. This was despite the fact that Afro-Caribbeaus were marginally more likely to

being held back by a "ce-ment roof" — rather than the glass ceiling said to constrain women's promottor in the labour market. Bob Ayling, chairman of

China, hoping that negotia-

tions with the US in 1997 will

help to clear the main ob-stacle to its membership of

the WTO, announced yester-day that by 2000 it will lower average tariffs from the pres-

Race for Opportunity and chief executive of British Airways, warned: "It is ab solutely vital that the lead-ers of British business are involved in attracting them members of the ethnic community] into the main-stream of British commerce by creating new opportunities in employment, mar-keting and purchasing. We will not compete effectively in the global economy unless we harness all of the talent and resources avail-

for courses

SPORTS NEWS 13

prize money is on offer.
On Saturday two other premier jumping courses. Ascot and Aintree, were short of runners and one wonders if more money should be spent trying to produce better ground which would attract more competitive fields that would increese betting and would increase betting and boost the horseracing levy. Bookmakers are hoping that any tax reductions will

be passed on to punters, which should produce more turnover for their shops and the government coffers.

With the advent of gaming machines in betting shops, plus betting on the Irish Lottery numbers becoming popular with punters, bookmakers cannot have too much to bel-

Racing, however, does not benefit from profits from gaming machines or the irish Lottery, so the need for more

Sports Turf Research Insti-tute to check over the course.

"Our agronomist Mike Har-bridge will be making a rou-tine visit during the week," said Arkwright. "But in the light of the small fields at the Murphy's meeting and in view of the criticism from certain quarters I thought it appropriate to commission a totally independent report on favour him.

the current state of the turf. An inspection was carried out this morning by Peter Winter of the Sports Turf Research Institute from Bingley and his report should be with us within 10 days." Arkwright insisted he was

Arkwright insisted he was merely using the institute for advice and was unlikely to take action based on its findings. "I was being criticised and I really just thought it would be a help to take a report from the leading sports turf advisers," he said.

"We have used them before

turf advisers," he said.

"We have used them before, but not for something like this. In the past they've been called in for special projects."

Tony McCoy has decided not to appear at the Jockey Club this morning to appeal against his three-day whip hen which rules him out of ban, which rules him out of this weekend's Hennessy

Instead, the champion jockey will be doing a double stint, riding Courbarli in the opening race at Cheltenham then dashing off to Huntingdon for Teinein in the final

The long haul to Hunting-don can pay off for Teinein (3.35) looks worthy of the nap in the Tote Handicap Hurdle.

competitive fields is imperative.

Philip Arkwright, clerk of the course at Cheltenham, is concerned about the state of the ground and has called in the West Yorkshire-based Species Turk Postern North up here. Forster's grand chaser

Dublin Flyer (3.00) is the star of the Huntingdon meet-ing. This fine jumper was bowling along in front when slipping up on the flat in the Murphy's Gold Trophy at Cheltenham and the condi-tions of this afternoon's Peterborough Chase certainly

No joy as Griffiths is banned

ton racegoers yesterday after throwing away a race he should have won.

44011 DEPLY VALE (11) (C) (D) E Wheler 5-6-1 20142 KINGS BARRIORY (10) (D) P Mater 3-0-1 305403 BEARR PEARL (11) J Reft 5-6-1 30507 PRIMERE PLUTE (20) (D) L Cohert 5-0-2 50007 PRIMERE PLUTE (20) (C) (D) Mass Gay (C) 50007 TATT AND A FEAR (10) (C) (D) Mass Gay (C)

DAVID GRIFFITHS was second division of the boosed by Wolverhamp claiming stakes.

Dragonjoy was well clear entering the final furlong, but Griffiths, in his efforts The apprentice rider was banned for five racing days (Dec 4-14) after failing to ride out Dragonjoy in the

Graf leaves brave new era struggling for credibility

the women's game may be kidding itself over its strength

Tennis

STEFFI GRAF's fifth WTA Tour championship title, achieved with a five-set victory over Martina Hingis on Sun-day night, lifts her another notch higher in the estima-tion of tennis historians but leaves a few questions about the state of the women's

Those promoting the Corel
WTA Tour view the situation
with optimism, seeing a new
generation of youngsters ready to take the world's top-earning sport for women into

Heading that generation is Hingis, the 16-year-old Swiss who has made phenomenal progress over the last three months and whose passage to the final of the Chase Championship has taken her to fifth in the year-ending women's rankings (she is listed as No. 4 but four players are above her, Monica Seles and



Hingis . . . leader of the pack interest only from the quarbut still chasing on Sunday ter-finals help show the

Chris Bowers Savs | Arantza Sanchez Vicario

sharing No. 2). Graf cited Hingis, the beaten New York semi-finalist Iva Majoli and Chanda Rubin, who narrowly failed to qualify for the 16-woman championship, as the flag-carriers of the new generation. To them must be added Venus Williams 15 and Aprel Form Williams, 16, and Anna Kour-nikova, 16, who are making

rapid progress.
Yet new may not mean bet-Yet new may not mean better. The appeal of Graf's match against Hingis, which the German won 6-3, 4-6, 6-0, 4-6, 6-0, was in the clash of styles. Both are effectively baseliner players but Graf favours slice on her backhand while Hingis hits through hers with tree hands. Bethere hers with two hands. Both are keen to bring their opponent to the net, but in different

The danger with the new generation is that they all play the same way. An ex-treme example came in the first-round match between Majoli and Anke Huber — both players blasted the ball from the baseline, there were two drop shots and not one volley. Such matches are not

rare. Yet Graf's continued pres ence at the top of the tree and the revival of Jana Novotna at the age of 28 could sustain the women's game for an-other couple of years. No-voins in particular is the last world-class player comfort-able at the net in singles and, like Martina Navratilova, when she plays a new-genera-tion player the clash of styles

The question of strength in depth continues to dog the women's circuit. The tour has profited in the last decade Perhaps the format of the from some wonderful men's and women's end-ofmatches, many equal to or year championships — the better than those of their eight best men play a round-male counterparts, but they robin leading to semi-finals tend to come in the latter rounds of tournaments. Telsvision producers who take an interest only from the quarter-finals help show the of the first-round matches

women's game in the best | at this year's Chase Champi- | pras and Martin, or Becker light and spectators, onship only one went to three following it chiefly from that stage, may get a falsely of an injury to Conchita Marfavourable impression. Perhaps the format of the tinez). Compare that with a format in which, say, Graf, Sanchez, Hingis and Davenport played each other at least once, as would Seles, No-votna, Martinez and Majoli, and final while the 16 best

and the event might fill some of the empty swathes of seats at Madison Square Garden. With the men, first-round knock-out ties between Sam-

and Courier could make the ATP Tour Championship more exciting in the first cou-

ple of days.

Even with such changes,
Graf would still probably win.
Yet, at the end of a year in
which she has struggled with
persistent injuries to her back and left knee, does her continuing dominance mean she is outstanding or that the rest of the women's field ought to be stronger?

Lingfield (All-weather)

other players ought to be dis-appointed," said Graf, "but I've had a great year in terms of my results. But it's been a crazy year as well, and in a way I'm glad it's done. "In another way, in terms

"I don't know whether the

of what I've done in tennis this year, I topped last year. It was so much more difficult physically. From that per-spective I really outdid my-self. Next year my health is my priority."

Cheltenham with form for the televised events

1.36 Gionalia Sta

/103/ID- BLAZER MONHMENT (\$14) P PRINTED 7-12-0 (\$191-3 BLAZER AWAY (\$7)) Belding 5-14-0 (\$711 of COURNAUM (\$14) (CD) (\$19 M Pipe 4-11-8 (\$19-11) BELLEGI (\$1) M Popeling 5-19-5

TOP POPUL TIPEL Constant & Maso Away 7 Beitikes 5-4 Courteers, 13-8 Blaze Assay, 9-1 Bellind, 50-1 Blazer Marinians.

2.10 WE HOLDSY'S MARRICAP CHASE 24 H CLIVE

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Beatless 10-11 Markins Martino, 5-4 Chicoderi, 9-2 Serentir Prever. POWER GUIDDE - MANDY'S MANTYNO: Cipped leader, left in head after 4th, ridden out, basit Linie Buch 4 Newbury 2m 12 bd., Gd., CHISCOSARIA Held up, headway 5th, one paso brook 2 cut, but of 6, 45 helded Thisaelo (Morpeder 2m lazy hd,

Channel 4

Channel 4

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3.55 so eacher in regland will induced berdle as at \$1,501 000-11 TARRES BRIDGE (28) C Alext 5-71-10 0) - HERES PROM AFAR (347) Mrs S Williams 5-11-2 ... PCEP RABE SPREAM (20) If you 6-1-2 2022-20 SPACEAMS GOLD (3) J ON 7-11-2

off; 10, Markendon 8, Lady Righ Sin

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Loc (Chellenberg 2m 4) Tillyds top ch, Gd-Frid.

Loc (Chellenberg 2m 4) Lod (p by, chessed winner fast, weathered flat, 3rd of 4, 24 beighed Ungelded Manufa CARACH, in top ch, Gd.

SRADis in top ch, older 4 and, went 2md aller non sed, and chemical with element that for by Banjo (Alatina 3m 1 and chemical flat for the Standard Alatina 3m 1 and chemical flat for the SRADIs in top ch, Gd.

STAMER FLATTER Alatina behind, ledd off when publish up below 17th in more won by Planjack Led (Macco

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Huntingdon card with TV form

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2.0	CHIEF THREE Record S., Canat Allington 7., Nalgish Of Form S. Opens Bull' 4 9 7 A Whales T-4 (Man Buy Ruberty) 11 van y 5-1 Halgolin Cr Pares, 17-2 Bancot, 6-1 Halders Ribristo, 8-1 Gal gorn Ferralds, 10-1 Hangain River, 13-1 Ruck The Bentsy. D BARCHIST FLUOR SELLING STAKES; (109° II) 1 in 22° E1,300° 182000 OWN SHALDING (7) (C) K horry 6-9-8 182000 OWN SHALDING (7) (C) K horry 6-9-8 18204 ANOTHER FROME (1940) B Pageop 8-9-4 184007 ABCATURA (20) C James 4-9-4 182000 CROLLY LAD (15) (D) all Page 5-9-4	"A Defficial 2+ "A Bodiene 5+ "Sanden 1 "N Cody-Businier (7) 2 "Dane Cytelli 7 "A Cigri, 9+ "Flanch (3) B
2.0 1 2 4 5 6 7	CHE TIPS: Record 2, Onnit Allingto 7, Nalghith Of Form 5 Opens Bull 4 9 7 A Masher 7-4 (Bloss Buy Kalberty) 11 ster yr 5-1 Halphin Of Penns, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Medium Shirken, 8-1 On yorn Ferrand, 10-1 Hought Flows, Ch-1 Reck The Bentsy. D BANCING FLOOR SELLING STANCES (DOV II) 1m 22 E1,288 BESSON OWN STANCES (T) (C) K Nowy 8-9-9 BESSON OWN STANCES (T) (C) Paners 8-8-4 GARCATURA (C)	A Buffield 2+ A Bolines 64 Sondern 1 B Cody-Businier (7) Dane O'Hell 7 A Clark 89 JF Lynok (5) 8 Captig Blorin 13
2.0	CHE TIPS: Record 2, Onnit Allingto 7, Nalghith Of Form 5 Opens Bull 4 9 7 A Masher 7-4 (Bloss Buy Kalberty) 11 ster yr 5-1 Halphin Of Penns, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Medium Shirken, 8-1 On yorn Ferrand, 10-1 Hought Flows, Ch-1 Reck The Bentsy. D BANCING FLOOR SELLING STANCES (DOV II) 1m 22 E1,288 BESSON OWN STANCES (T) (C) K Nowy 8-9-9 BESSON OWN STANCES (T) (C) Paners 8-8-4 GARCATURA (C)	A Buffield 2+ A Bolines 64 Sondern 1 B Cody-Businier (7) Dane O'Hell 7 A Clark 89 JF Lynok (5) 8 Captig Blorin 13
2.0	CHE TIFE Record 2, Onnit Allingto 7, Nalghirt Of Form 5 Opens Bull 4 9 7 A Market 7-4 (Bloss Buy Kallwerty) 11 ster of 5-1 Heights Of Form, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Medium Statelor, 8-1 On opens Ferrand, 10-1 Hought Flow, Ch-1 Reck The Bently. D BARCHING FLOOR SELLING STANCES (DOV II) 1m 22 E1,286 05000 OWN STANCES (7) [C] K Nowy 8-9-9 050015 PROSLAN COMMONST (122) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050015 PROSLAN COMMONST (122) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050016 PROSLAN COMMONST (123) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050010 CARCATURA (20) C James 4-0-4 20-05-9 MARKET (126) (D) M Ryon 5-9-4 40042 BASTLEROS (1-6) (C) R Hollanded Y-9-4 20050 MARKET SERIES (1-6) (C) R Hollanded Y-9-4 09-000 LOOM PRINT LAD (105) I Brigger 4-9-4 09-000 LOOM PRINT LAD (105) I Brigger 4-9-4	A Buffield 2+ A Bolison 64 S Seeden 1 It Cody-Businier (7) Dane O'ttelf 7 A Clark 89 F Lynol (5) 8 Charles 11 J Chan 64 J Charles 11
2.0	CHE TIFE Record 2, Onnit Allingto 7, Nalghirt Of Form 5 Opens Bull 4 9 7 A Market 7-4 (Bloss Buy Kallwerty) 11 ster of 5-1 Heights Of Form, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Medium Statelor, 8-1 On opens Ferrand, 10-1 Hought Flow, Ch-1 Reck The Bently. D BARCHING FLOOR SELLING STANCES (DOV II) 1m 22 E1,286 05000 OWN STANCES (7) [C] K Nowy 8-9-9 050015 PROSLAN COMMONST (122) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050015 PROSLAN COMMONST (122) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050016 PROSLAN COMMONST (123) (CD) R Agricus 4-9-9 050010 CARCATURA (20) C James 4-0-4 20-05-9 MARKET (126) (D) M Ryon 5-9-4 40042 BASTLEROS (1-6) (C) R Hollanded Y-9-4 20050 MARKET SERIES (1-6) (C) R Hollanded Y-9-4 09-000 LOOM PRINT LAD (105) I Brigger 4-9-4 09-000 LOOM PRINT LAD (105) I Brigger 4-9-4	A Buffield 2+ A Bolison 64 S Seeden 1 It Cody-Businier (7) Dane O'ttelf 7 A Clark 89 F Lynol (5) 8 Charles 11 J Chan 64 J Charles 11
2.0 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 3 9 10 11	CHE TIFE Record 2, Onnit Allingto 7, Nalgish Of Fame 5 Opens Bull 4 9 7 A Masker 7-4 (Bloss Bay Kallwerty) 11 ster gr 5-1 Halghin Of Fame, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Madewity 11 ster gr 5-1 Halghin Of Fame, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Madewity 11 ster gr 5-1 Halghin Of Fame, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Madewity 11 ster gr 5-1 Halghin Of Fame, Y1-2 Bennod, 8-1 Madewity 11 ster gr 5-1 Halghin Of Halghin Fame, Y1-1 Halghin Tollows BESSON OWN SHALIME (7) [C] K Nowy 8-9-9 BESSON OWN SHALIME (7) [C] K Nowy 8-9-9 BESSON OWN SHALIME (7) [C] K Nowy 8-9-9 BESSON OWN SHALIME (7) [C] P Notice 48-4 BUSSON SHALIME (14) [C] R Notice 48-4 BUSSON SHALIME (14) [C] R Notice 48-4 DO-000 LOGAR PRINT LAD (14) J Bridger 48-4 DO-000 LOGAR PRINT LAD (14) J Bridger 48-4 DO-000 LOGAR PRINT LAD (14) J Long 5-8-4 BUSSON SHALIME (14) [C] P Protogr 4-8-4 DO-000 BUSSON GREAT (14) [Long 5-8-4	A Buffield 24 A Bolines 84 Senden 1 R Cody-Building (7) Bun O'mil 7 A Clark 86 F Lyoch (5) 85 Clark 16orin 15 D Barrison 11 J Cahn 60 Local Long 4 M Adams 10
2.0	CHIN TIPS: Record 3, Genet Allineon 7, Nalgish Of Ferm 5 Copen Bull 4 9 7 A Whales 7-4 (Man Buy Rubwerly) 11 stell 5-1 Height Of Perm. 17-2 Bened, 8-1 Height States, 8-1 Gar gorn Fermala, 10-1 Houghs River, 13-1 Ruck The Sentey. O BARCHIES FLOOR SELLING STAKES; (DSF II) 1m 22 E1,388 65000 OWN SHADSK (7) [C] K hvey 6-8-8 65000 OWN SHADSK (7) [C] K hvey 6-8-8 65000 OWN SHADSK (7) [C] K hvey 6-8-4 65000 OWN SHADSK (7) [C] CEIJ R Agersm 4-8-8 65000 OWN SHADSK (20) C James 4-8-4 65000 CHANTERS (20) C James 4-8-4 65000 CHANT (AD (16) (D) All Pages 5-8-4 65000 CHANT (AD (16) (D) All Pages 5-8-4 65000 CHANT (AD (16) (D) All Pages 5-8-4 65000 MATTA SUBSHINDE (7) (CO) A Move 8-8-4 65000 MATTA SUBSHINDE (7) (CO) A Move 8-8-4	A Buffield 24 A Bolines 84 Senden 1 R Cody-Building (7) Bun O'mil 7 A Clark 86 F Lyoch (5) 85 Clark 16orin 15 D Barrison 11 J Cahn 60 Local Long 4 M Adams 10

12.50 (1m 1f 79ydn)a 1, CEDEZ LE PAS-SAGE, M Henry (8-1); 2, Yeoman Offver (3-1); 2, Juge Rarry (8-4 fev). 10 ran. 35, 35, K Cunningham-Brown) Tota: 7:50; 12-40, E1.10, E1.50. Duel F: E15.50. CSF; £30.65.

1986: Bouthern Dominion 2 7 9 M Adoms 7-1 (M Johnston) 14 ros Buttling: 4-1 Duks Valentino, 5-1 Prime Stit, 6-1 Imposing Time, 7-1 Double Stue, 8-1 Klage Hermony, 10-Deeply Vale, Purple Filing. CROUND DANKENG LAWYER (11) (CD) B Monhan 5-0-12 124094 SWIECT SUMPOSING (ES) (CD) C Dwyer 5-0-4 650000 ERRANT (12) (CD) (WF) D CANGROVA 4-5-4 102005 OTRIOST ERAL (T) P Herris 3-0-4 TOP FORM TERM Pully Pacaller S, Monham 7, Sweet Supposin S 1890: Danning Liwyer 4.9 7 R Cochemn 7-2 (S.J Mosham) 9 ran Suthings 5-1 Polly Pacoller, Usacat Zuel, 6-1 Greet Supposin, Harlopsin Walt, Walt, Montons, Sody Tern. | Column | C 12± J D Seeks (2) 6 TOP FORW TIPE Greatest & SIS Garden 7, Present Situation 8 Betilege 4-1 Present Shuntion, 9-2 Gretatet, 5-1 SIS Gerden, 6-1 Mazurci, 5-1 Kingchip Boy, 10-1 angustire Lagand, Hereal Storm. Blinkered today for the first time: HUNTINGDON: 12.40 Results C16.00. (1so Of 168-puints 1, ARCADY, G Outflood (8-1); 2, Miles Prison (1-1); 3, Ramaged (5-1), 4-1 for idea, 12 fam. Shid. 7, (7 Wateryn) Tote: C12.90; 63.10, 63.10, 52.00. Dual P. E20.60, C8P. 185.53, Tricust: E509.29. Tric: E58.10. FOLKESTONE FOLKESTUME:
1.00 (2m 6f 110yda Hdink 1, EMERALD
5.70 (2m 6f 110yda Hdink 1, EMERALD
5.74 (2mm); G Hopen (5-1); 2, Formal
Neek (8-4 fav); 3, Ross Sancer (10-1), 10
rn. 24, 2, (0 Grissell) Tole: 55,40; C250.
51.20, D4.00, Dust F: 519.80, C8F: 512.75.
Tric: D42.50, NR: Warnstand.

2.30 (1sm 1f 70yda): 1, HORESTLY, S Sanders (8-1): 2, Dragosloy (8-1): 3, Obs-loe (evens tav). 10 ran. Hd. 4. (8 Smart) Tota: E7.70: E2.30, E2.70, E1.10. Duel f: E27.00. CSF: E85.89. Trio: E22.20. Tric: DE.SO. NF: Warnshard.
1.30 (2cm \$1 410 pds Hollan) 1, BOARD-ROCKE SECURITIES, P. Hide (8-11 fav); 2, Spinnadh Thyrne (6-1); 3, Fantany Line (6-1), 7 nn. 10, 1K (4 Gifford) Toxec C1.50; E1.40, E1.50. Dual F: E3.00. CSP: D5.60. 127.00. GBF: 185.88. THC: 122.20. DOLLY, D Sweeney (11-2): 2. Clasher (33-1): 3. Docable Express (8-4 lay), B ran. Hd. 3. IX Burta) Tols: 57.80; 52.50. 54.80, Ct. 10. Dust F: Ct. 23.70. GBF: 5124.04. Tripost: 5374.13. THC: 152.270. Tric: \$22,80. 2.20 (71): 1, RECHULLIN, D R McCabe (2-1 |i tay); 2, Separtelle (2-1 |i tay); 3, Collec Choice (12-1), 12 rat. 1%, 10, [D Loder] Tots (25,00; 1-4,0; 1-1,0; 22.50, Dual F: \$3,80, CSF: \$8,77, Tric: \$18.50. 3.50 (1m 4f)s 1, GREENSPAN, Dane O'Nelli (8-11 lby); 2, Kleenscotch (8-1); 3, Ferzalir (10-1). 12 ran. 9, K. (W Muir) Tota: C1.60: C1.40, C2.80, C2.30. Duel F: C13.70. CSP: C12.13 Tric: C58.00. LSS-1, 12,78. From ECMB GCMB, G Faulkner (10-1); 2, Denort Invedor (10-1); 3, Miles Armgen (4-1 co fev), 4-1 co lav Al Street & Gad Valoun, 13 ran. 7, shd. (M Sell) Tote: C2-40; C3-0, D8.20, ESB. Dust F: 244.30. CSF, C116.89, Tricaut: D458.65, Tric: C255.80. 211.08.
3.90 (2m tf 110yde Flet): 1, BURA
VORUE, D C'Sullivan (11-7); 2, Supreme
Troglodyte (25-7); 3, Plaid Maid (12-7).
3-1 fav Roye Ruler. 14 ran. 1, 25, (R Rowe)
Tote: 518,10; 23.50, 23.80, 25.90, Duei F:
£712.10 - part won. GSF: £262.96. Trio:
£171.20. E Derek Malcolm



Major backs bid for 2006 **World Cup**

E Prime Minister John Major last night told the Football Association he would "strongly support" its bid to bring the World Cup to England in 2006.

land in 2006.

A four-strong FA delegation, including England's coach Glenn Hoddle, had an hour-long meeting with Mr Major at Downing Street to discuss the possibility of Goverument backing for a cam-paign to bring the finals back to this country for the first

time in 10 years.
Graham Kelly, the FA's chief executive, said afterwards the Prime Minister "indicated be is very keen and will strongly support the

bid in principle".

The FA will hold detailed talks with the Government in the next two weeks and there will be a special Downing Street reception before Febru-ary's World Cup qualifier

against Italy.
Staging the World Cup may
cost double the £150 million
expended on Euro 96, but Kel-

als and their officials have accused the FA of bad faith. citing an implicit agreement that their support for England's Euro 96 bid would be followed by reciprocal backing for Germany in 2006.

But Kelly said: "We have talked to the German FA about it. At the moment we have as healthy a rivalry off the field as we have so often citing an implicit agreement

There may still be ques tions surrounding Emerson's long-term intentions but Middlesbrough's Brazilian returns against Newcastle in

returns against Newcastle in tomorrow's Coca-Cola Cup tie at the Riverside Stadium.

Boro's manager said: "Emerson definitely plays. He picks himself, he's a top-class player who's available to us."

Emerson's last game, over three weeks ago, was also against Newcastle — the 3-1 Premiership defeat at St James's Park. The next day he fiew home amid reports he he flew home amid reports he would not return to England.

Leicester's 18-year-old striker Emile Heskey has rejected the chance to move to cost double the £150 million a top Premierable club by expended on Euro 98, but Kelly insisted finances had not been discussed so far.

Germany have already said they will bid for the 2006 finance bear and they will bid for the 2006 finance to move to a top Premierable club by a top Premierable club by

Nike just does it in bad taste, says Fifa

Neil Robinson

Maldini and Patrick Kluivert it was a nice little earner ahead of Euro 96; to the sportswear com-pany Nike it was a demonstration of good versus evil. But to the guardians of the game's global morality it was an advertisement 'glorifying violence and

Although Sepp Blatter, Fifa's secretary-general, did not mention the company by name, his com-ments, published yesterday in Fifa News, clearly refer to the campaign which saw footballers pit their skills in combat against a myriad ghouls and monsters. In

"Fifa is not happy with an advertising trend that glorisaid Blatter. "Technically clever and futuristic as it may be, such a style does nothing to promote values

sionable youngsters."
Until yesterday the main reservation about the Nike campaign had been its inappropriateness: Les Ferdinand, David Ginola and Cantona all featured in the UK poster campaign but none made his country's final squad while a referee Dermot Gallagher, was in-jured and had to withdraw

from the tournament. Last night a Nike spokes ad was 'Good versus Evil'. It was not about encourag-



Back in the gym . . . Graham launches his comeback in Sheffield tonight

I have to find out if I can still do it, says Bomber on a mission

Herol Graham is donning the gloves again at the age of 37 and after four years in retirement. Gavin Evans finds out why

rolls up a leg of his tracksnir pants and runs a finger along newly plucked flesh. 'It's so-o smooth," he says, his face creasing into a mischievous grin. 'Tm off to House of Fraser tonight to get the other one waxed."

All for charity, of course, though he jokes that his girlfted Niha likes the waxed fieel. It's not quite what you'd

vous grin. "I'm off to House of Fraser tonight to get the other one waxed."

All for charity, of course, though he jokes that his girl-friend Nija likes the waxed fieel. It's not quite what you'd expect from a fighter training for a comeback at the age of 37, but then Herol has always had fun living at the margins of his sport's machismo.

of his sport's machismo.

In his youth he was playhilly dubbed "Bomber" by his
now estranged mentor Brendan Ingle, an ironic tribute to
the fact that Graham placed
more store on avoiding
punches than on taking the
other fellow out. For years no
one in Britain was harder to
tag with a clean shot.

Tonight, after four years in
retirement, Graham returns
to the ring in his home city of
Sheffield. His opponent is
Terry Ford, an American
punchbag with a claimed record of 13 wins in 16 outings,
but Graham is mainly out to
refute the received wisdom

refute the received wisdom that age strips a fighter of his speed, timing and reflexes.

"I'm doing it because there's something still there. I'm saying, 'Heroi, let it out, or else you'll get to 50 and still want to do it." And then of course, there's the question of money, which has been in short supply recently. "If I said it wasn't the money I'd be a liar, but I like the sport, and my ambition is still to be world champion."
Graham twice came very

close to that goal. Between 1976 and 1969 he won 41 of his 42 fights and sarned a worldtitle shot against Mike McCal-lum of Jamaica, a great mid-dleweight. He lost by a

In his second try, 18 months

nine rounds by the unher-alded Frank Grant, the first Briton to beat him. Graham retired briefly but announced a comeback,

'I need money, yes, but my ambition is still to be world champion'

which ended when he was knocked down by a smaller sparring partner and had his licence withdrawn by the British Boxing Board of

Control. He has his set-piece ratiomoments, and you can sympa-thise with them. A week be-fore the Grant fight Graham's sister was brutally assaulted and he broke training to sit by her hospital bedside. "It was an awful thing. The

guy got 15 years in jail, so you know how bad it was. When I got into the ring it was still on my mind and I just couldn't knock-down, he said, could happen to anyone. "I was unfit, went to the gym to spar,

messed around and the next thing, smack, that was me on And the board, he said, got it wrong first time round. "They made me march on the

me and my eyes closed. I moved three inches to the left and they said I moved 45 degrees, so they got concerned about my balance.

"Then they made me go

through psychometric tests where they asked me complicated questions about maths and English and things. which I couldn't answer.

which I couldn't answer."
He has kept busy during his fallow period. He qualified as a fitness instructor, ran marathons, studied for his GCSEs and did any media work that passed his way. But the urge to box would not fade, so he forked out £1,000 of his dwindling funds to secure independent medical reports, retook ding tunds to secure independent medical reports, retook the board's tests and passed. "Everyone's going to worry and wonder if I've still got it. But you don't need to wonder chart at the passer stonned.

about me. I've never stopped training. I'm still quick and I can still get out of the way of

punches."
The immediate evidence is reassuring. Though Graham has now risen a few pounds to nas now usen a rew pounds to super-middleweight, he still cuts the same sleek figure whose photographs adorn every wall of Glyn Rhodes's draughty gymnasium. His nose, however, bears evi-dence of his trade, the scar of a deep velcro-induced cut from a sparring session with a former world light-heavyweight champion Henry Maske.

He is self-managed now, and his humour is frequently self-deprecating. He gives off a sense that his self-worth does not depend on more ring glory but hints that, if that happened, he would like to hitch his wagon to Frank Warren's fast-moving promotional train. Four warm-ups and then a showdown with Chris Eubank, a man he once toyed with in sparring, would

do him fine.

"After we sparred Eubank wouldn't box me because he knew what would happen. I could have beaten him one day and Nigel Benn the next, but they both avoided me.
Benn, he'll stay retired. But Eubank? it could happen." He chuckles for a moment. "Who knows? I might still be able to win a world championship.

Snooker

a blazing ball through a de-mon's midriff. The pot pots by Williams as a company that violence and we know that violence bas no place in the game."

Clive Everton at Preston

ARK WILLIAMS, the 21-year-old Weish left-hander, made breaks of 77, 90 and 91 to go 6-2 up on Nigel Bond and he requires only three of this afternoon's nine frames to reach the UK Championship quarter-finals at Preston Guild Hall.

Last month's Bournemouth Grand Prix winner still has trouble keeping the cue-ball on a tight enough string in his positional play, but in sheer potting he has few rivals in the modern game.

Twice he launched frame val lead with a run of 84.
winning breaks from safeties with which Bond would have been well satisfied and was yesterday from John Spencer. 6-1 up before the world No. 5 hit back with a 77 break.

of Scotland's winning World
Cup trio, took a 5-3 interval
lead over Billy Snaddon, their
Spencer, magnania travelling reserve. Snaddon led with a 68 break and was within a couple of easy potts of going 2-0 up, only to find himself quickly 4-1 down. He bounced back with claimed his two-frame inter- Spencer added.

who is quitting as WPBSA alt back with a 77 break. chairman and board member Alan McManus, a member amid criticism from figures such as Stephen Hendry's

Spencer, magnanimously in the circumstances, deplored the paper's depiction of Hendry as Scrooge as a "totally undeserved smear" and defended the Scot's strong record in charity frame-winning efforts of 72 work. "Stephen is a terrific and 74 before McManus ambassador for the game,"

McLean falls by Way's side

Michael Britten in Spain

Joined his school-days' friend Paul Way in professional limbo yesterday and Gordon Sherry is in danger of following them after lack-lustre fifth rounds in the PGA European Tour Quali-fying School at San Roque. McLean, one of nine tour

champions seeking to regain cards, had just scrambled through to the final 36 holes but then shot scrambled through to the — on his way to a 75 that of the five days, has a three-final 36 holes but then shot also included four three-stroke advantage despite a 80 for a 14-over-par total of putts and left him peril-seven at the long 5th.

resulting in an eight at the 8th, which he was playing as his 17th, sunk the 33-year-old who won the Por-tuguese Open six years ago. Now, like the former Ryder Cup player Way, eliminated after 72 holes, he needs invitations to play

the circuit next year. Sherry went into the water at the 18th — for the third time in three rounds

374. He is last of the 78 go | onely placed in his effort to ling into today's last round.

An out-of-bounds drive | cards issued tonight.

The Scot stands joint 36th, at six over per, and will probably need to shoot level par today. "I am not playing badly but I am get-ting fed up with hitting good shots into greens and not getting any reward." said Sherry last night, as he tried out a clutch of putters from the club shop.

The Londoner Brian Davis, who has led for four

v Denden v East Fife v Morton v Stirling A v Alrene

Sheffield United 15

Shaffield Wed. 14

Southhampton 20

30

27

12

26

Stoke City

West Ham

Wimbledon

The independent news and reports service 0891 33 77+

Devilish . . . the demon target for Cantona's blazing football

Ipewich Town Leads United 03 Bern. City Blackburn Boiton Men, City 02 Sunderland Brentford Man. United 01 Burnley 17

28

Derby County

Everton

Hudd. Town Calls cost 50P for Man Mon-Fir, Sam-Grin and 43P for Man at all other times. Suppled By Mic, 15 mars, lane, leeds 191 Blb. Neddune: 0171 713 4473

Norwich City 18

The Guardian CINTERACTIVE

gest): Pienel accorde (US un'esp. stated): 272 K Webb (Aux) 98. 70. 68. 65. 278 K. Robbins 70. 70. 71. 65. N L. Opez 73. 68. 69. 70. 71. 65. N L. Opez 73. 68. 69. 70. 71. 65. N L. Opez 73. 68. 69. 70. 71. 67. J Intester 68. 70. 72. 67. 279 M McGenn. 281 A Screenstam (Swe) 73. 69. 73. 57. P Hammel 68. 71. 74. 69. 2692 C Pierros (GS) 77. 72, 70. 69. PRIVA LEADERSHOUARDS 1. L. Davies (Eng.) 491.00; 2. A Screenstam (Swe) 156. 577 3, K Webb (Aux) 327.32 4. L. Neumann (Swe) 159. 50. 517; 3, K Webb (Aux) 327.32 4. L. Neumann (US) 217.77; 8, M McGenn (US) 225.24; 7, M McGenn (US) 245.00; 1. K Robbins (US) 255.24; 7, M McGenn (US) 266.00; 1. K Robbins (US) 255.24; 7, M McGenn (US) 250.00; 1. K Robbins (US) 250.00; 1. K Robbins (US) 252.24; 7, M McGenn (US) 250.00; 1. K Robbins (US) 145.57; 13. V Stönner (US) 145.02; 14. T Johnson (Eng.) 149.32; 15. P Smeehen (US) 145.02; 14. T Johnson (Eng.) 149.32; 15. P Smeehen (US) 157.06; 18. M L de Lorend (Pr.) 135.62; 17. A McChokas (Eng.) 134.93; 18. B Oscilal (US) 125.90; 18. L. Herkmay (Eng.) 19.84; 20. R Lonne (US) 118.00 (Obsers 38. J Morley (Eng.) 33.03; 42. C Piertoe (Eng.) 70.90; 56. L Patrologon (Eng.) 59.58; K Marshall (Scot) 53.18; 84. P Wright (Scot) 38.83; 90. D Reid (Scot) 32.88.

Baskethall

BASKCTDAII

NBAC Cleveland 103, Sacramento 74, Boslori 105, Dellas 81; New York 92, Sestile
102; Phogelis 84, Milard 87; Vancouver 98,
SSR Anthonio 91; LA Lators 85, Houston 90,
Landing standings Eastern Conference Admissio Divisions 1, Ortendo (MS,
L2, PcL750, GS); 2, Milardi 13-4-822-01; 3,
New York (8-5-015-1), Cambrid 19-4-822-01; 3,
New York (8-5-015-1), Cambrid 19-4-823-15; 3, Cleveland 19-4-750-25).
Western Conferences Militaret Divisions
1, Criticago (12-4-923-0); 2, Detroit (10-2833-15); 3, Cleveland (9-6-750-25),
Western Conferences Militaret Divisions
1, Houston (12-1-923-0); 2, 4846
(8-2-200-20); 3, Milaret (12-2-857-0);
Paulife Divisions 1, Sentile (12-2-857-0);
2, LA Lators (8-6-843-3); 3, Forderd (8-6-815-35). Chess

WORLD JUMBOR (U-BO) CHARPRON-SHIP (Medellin, Col): Pinell scarces 1, E Satovsky (ser) 10/13; 2, X Zhong (Chino) 9; 3, Z Gyineal (Han) 84; WOSELD GERLEN (, C Zhu (China) 12/13; 2, C Peptan (Flori) 98; 5, X Yuhue (China) 9. WORLD SERIOR (Over-80) CHARPI-ORESHIP (Bad Liebobrell, Ger): Pinell scarces 1, A Sectin (Flux) 88/11; 2, A Lein. (LS) 93; 3, J Klovens (Lei) 98; 4, W Uhi-mann (Ger) 8; 5, M Yellosarov (Rus) 8. Thore were no UK players in either event.

American Football Buffalo SE, NY Jest TD Chicago 31, Describ 14; Clorinani 41; Atlanta 31; Houston 8, Caroline 31; Kanasa City 14, Sen Diago 28; Manasacte 17, Derrer 21; New England 37; Indianatolis 13; Tampa Bay 13, New Crisens 7; Washington 16, San Francisco 18 (cit; Arizana 38, Priladelphia 36; NY Gunts 20, Dellas 6; Santine 21, Caldand 21; St Lottle 8, Green Bay 24, Leading stand-ings: Americana Conferences England Science 1, Bettelo (MS, LS, P227, PA202); 2, New England (6-4-510-282); 3, Magn (6-5-285-225); Cantral Division (6-256-244); 3, Cincinnati (6-7-272-283).

Western Divisions 1, Denver (11-1-317-192); 2, Kartass Chy (8-4-234-295), 3. San Diago (7-5-270-275). National Conferences Eastern Divisions 1, Washington (8-4-231-230); 2, Dellas (7-6-233-191); 3, Priladelphia (7-5-279-295). Control (5-7-296-296), Control (5-7-296-296), Control (5-7-296-296), Control (5-7-296-261), Washington 1, San Francisco (9-3-291-195); 2, Carolina (6-4-298-164); 3, St Louis (3-6-220-394).

ice Hockey

METHOTOS G BAC RALLY Leading final everal standings 1, A Schwarz (Ger) Toyota Callon dir denin State: 2, M Kambios (Lapan) Subaru Impraza at 7min State: 3, 8 Biomydist (Swo) Stoota Selficia (5,12; 4, M Hogons (GB) Missan Sumy 22,21; 5, G De Mevius (Bel) Remark Megane 24,30; 8, J Essson (GB) Ford Escort 27,05; 7, O Buckley (GE) Subaru Impraza SU.05; 8, Rovanpera SS.05; 8, E Weber (Ger) Sass Ibla 35,34; 10, R Beumachinger (Aut) Voltswagen Golf 35,35.

Fixtures

SUPERLAGUR: Brackreil 4. Baning-sioks 5; Menchester 5. Noticigham 4. Standingus 1. Cardiff. (GP17. Pra25); 2. Newcastie (17-22); 3. Sheffield (13-18); 4. Ayr (15-14); 5. Basingsside (17-14); 5. Manchester (15-14); 7. Notilingham (15-13); 8. Bracknell (15-9). Prassater LEAGUR Meoway 4. Slough 9; Patharough 3. Guildford 9: Solithal 8. Knoeston 2: Tellard 1. Swindon 8.

Soccer

SOCCOST

FA CUP: First-round vaplayas Barnet v
Famborough (7.45); Brighton v Sudbuty To
(7.45); Bristol C v Swannes (7.45); Hayes v
Stavenago (7.45); Hull v Whithy Tr (7.45);
Miltwell v Woking (7.45); Fustation &
O'mende v Borsham Wood (7.45); Northtorough v Stransbury; Walsall v Northwich (7.45); Wissham v Colwyn Bay; York
v Hartispool (7.45); Colvyn Bay; York
v Hartispool (7.45); Oxford Uid v
Southemation (7.45); Oxford Uid v
Southemation (7.45); Oxford Uid v
Southemation (7.46); Wichbiedon v Aston
Visa (7.45);
NATIONERS IN EXAMPLE: First Divisions

minghsm (7.45): Shell Utd v Swindom (7.45). Third Divisions Chester v Cardill. SCOTTESH LEAGUSE First Division East File v Greenock Mortune v Stranteer. His videon v Second, Chyle v Stranteer. Handlon Montrude v East String, Allos v Ablon.

FA VARIES Second vounds Hallast v Sandwell Bor, Hustingden v Trafford: Mossley v Morpeth Tr. Nambelon Tr. V St Androwel, Wick v Thatchem Tr. Wimborne Tr. V Stackwell Utd. Replayes South Stilletis v Blackwell Utd. Replayes South Stilletis v Black-pool (When Pers). Loudt Utd. v Thatchey, Saffron Walden Tn v Swatthem Tr. Arlevey To v Aveley.

(7.4%) Sanyonogo V Marcanno (17.4%).

VERDEOED LEAGUIR: Premier Divisions:
Chorley v Merine: Fricking v hydr Utd.
Lancaster v Winston (Utd. Hinst Dibisleyer
GH Harwood Tn v Netherfield; Harrogath Tn
v Raddille Bor; Warrington Tn v Atherion
LR., President's -Casn First remeds
Bunhar Bridge v Roncoth; Berrow V Acorington Stanley; Guiseley v Fersley
Celtic: Spernymoor v Blyth Sparitans;
Worksop v Lincoln Ltd.
Sciss Lifambilis: Premier Divisions Brothley v Cherotey Tn. Copt Secend Jesuado
Barstead Ath v Wealdstone; Leighton Tn v
Hendon, Replays Yeard v Jasofay. Thisde
remed: Graya v Cherham, First Division
Addernint Tn v Markos; Camery Island v
Barton-Rwit; Hampton v Beridisamatic Th.
DR. MARTHES LifaGUIS: Premier DivIslant Gloucoster C v Newport AFC. Mid-

Southers Divisions Clevedon To v Circles To.

Southers Divisions Clevedon To v Circles To.

1-W COUNTYSES LEAGUE. Prest Divisions To. Floodest Trophys Secured resent Eastwood Harriery v Bootle: Salterd C v Glassop NE.

HOWTHERS COUNTYSES SAST LEAGUE. Premier Divisions. Liversedge v Capet Ab; Capet To. V Bolles To. Scientifux Desert To Leaguer Premier Divisions. Birtigreets To v Tortington; Bristel MF v Pasiton Rvis.

PORTINES LEAGUE Premier Divisions Stackburn v Sheff Wed (7.0), Fiest Divisions Covertry v Notis Gousty (7.0), Second Divisions Rotherham v Carlisle (7.0).

Pirst Divines of June 1995.

Ham (2.0).

COUNTY ANTRON SMIRLDA Pirst reunds
Ballydare v Calinesy Compr. Ballymane v
Carrict, Bangor v Limitett, Cithonylle v
Ards; Crusaders v Comber Rec; Lame v
Distillery, Newry v Glentoner, Portadoen v

TOUR MATCHES: Cardill v Western Surnos (7.0): Munster v Australia (2.00. Thomson Pt). CLUB MATCHESS Beth v Combined Services (7.16): Rigby v Rs Prisons (6.0): Ascalo-wester Styles Peed 1 As Bridged v Brissol (7.15). Pool 23: Northampton v Caerphilip. ice Hockey

Athletics

Pearson leads **British charge**

Duncan Mackay

ANDREW PEARSON will head a British team seeking to sustain the revival of the nation's cross-country fortunes at the European Cham-plouships in Charleroi, Beleium, next month The Longwood Harrier be-

The Longwood Barrier oc-came the first British man for seven seasons to win an indi-vidual international champi-onship medal when he fin-ished third at last year's event in Alnwick. The team took the bronze then and, with Keith Cullen, fourth last

in the weekend's Chiba Ekiden Relay in Japan, and Christian Stephenson, who ran a personal best in a 6,000m track race there. Andrea Whitcombe, winner of Saturday's Gateshead in-

ternational, and the Olympic marathon runner Suzanne Rigg head a women's team Rigg head a women's team missing most of the top Britons. But Hayley Hayling, the Scot hailed as the new Liz McColgan before four injury-ruined years, returns to interpational compatition. national competition.

IRAIONAI COMPETITION
GREAT BRITARE Means & Random (GEC).
JETOWN (Shaffleid). D ENTYDWS
(Birthiold), K Callen (Cheimsford). A
Paarsen (Longwood). C Stephensen
(Cardiff). Rangeven N Caddy (Newpuby).
7 Taylor (Borden). M Worken L Mines
(Shatesbury). N Haylen (Gissyow). B
Hartigan (Sirchiold). S Rige
(Warrington). A. Wicksonder. (Paricaldo).
Reserves N Yelling (Hounslow).
S Bessley (Birthiold).

Sport in brief

Badminton

Andy Goode's contract as British-Olympic manager is not being renewed after next month, writes Richard Jago. month, wries Richard Jago.
The England manager Steve
Baddeley is unlikely to be
offered the new director of
performance job as the British Olympic Committee wants the home countries' interests protected. Favourite is Cana-da's coach Billy Gilliland, a Commonwealth gold medallist for Scotland in 1986.

SHARE LIED

tall a same or a part

Sailing

Britain's Chris Law lost 3-1 to Paul Cayard of the United States in the Steinlager/Line 7 match-racing grand prix final off Auckland, writes Bob

with Keith Cullen, fourth last year, and the Olympic 10,000 metres finalist Jon Brown, Britain have a gold-medal chance on December 15.

They are joined by Darrius Burrows, who helped Britain finish second to South Africa in the weekend's Chiha Eki.

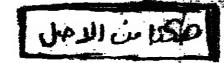
Fisher. Law led the fourth race but was penalised when his spinnaker brushed Cayard's rigging. Isabelle Autissier's PRB has taken the lead from Yves Parlier's Aquitaine Innovations in the Vendée Globe in the weekend's Chiha Eki. tions in the Vendée Globe non-stop, single-handed race around the world, while Mike Golding's Group 4, winner of the first leg, leads the BT Global Challenge fleet to Cape Horn on the second leg.

Boxing

Lennox Lewis's rematch with Oliver McCall for the vacant WBC title has been postponed from January 24 to February 7 at a venue to be chosen from Wembley Arena, Las Vegas and Atlantic City.

Golf

Greg Norman, the world No. 1, is to take a three-month break after hosting the Greg Norman Holden Classic Which starts on Thursday at Royal Melbourne. He needs to rest a persistent back strain.



The Guardian Tuesday November 26 1996

England in fear of a bleak midwinter

NLESS cricket's | the smallest of our 18 first-Islands, and England wisely opt for an immediate detour, their winter tours of Zimba-bwe and New Zealand offer an unrivalled opportunity to ar-rest a dismal overseas record, The Description of the control of the rest a dismal overseas record.
Even before England left
Heathrow yesterday assessments were being quietly
readjusted. It will not be long before the usual talk is being bandied about showing respect, no easy games and not underestimating the opposition. But, if England do not win, and win well, this winter, their prospects of staging a serious challenge for the Ashes next summer can be virtually dismissed.

In every unofficial league table England are placed eventh out of nine among the Test-playing nations, with only New Zealand and Zimba-

bwe below them.

growing appetite for expansion has brought overnight. Test recognition sia and the Falkland and Fractional forms of the first status of the first stani players had taken bribes to throw the match.

and were the last country to lose a home series to England, when Graham Gooch's side tri-umphed 2-0 five years ago. For England the coming weeks are not so much a matter of showing respect as preserving their own respectability.

The England captain Michael Atherton recognises this need only too well Raymond Illingworth, during his term as chairman of selectors, took every opportunity to por-tray Atherton as a novice, untutored in the wiles of cap-taincy; it was a constant surprise that he did not take to the field in a Manchester Grammar School cap with chewing-gum stuck to his

speaking. "If we don't win this winter, we're in a right mess," he said. Much as Atherton will not thank him for

The Tour

outrageous waste.

Dermot Reeve's criticism of

arton will not thank him for counting it out, he is absommances under the Illingworth-Atherton axis last winter will not be lightly
ons series to show for this
winter's efforts Atherton's
prospects of overhauling

The Manual County of Citis, Suitewayo), 10-13 Enterheliand (Outset's Citis, Suitewayo), 10-13 Enterheliand (Outset's Citis, Suitewayo), 15 Zenbabwe, 1st one day Indea (Outset's Citis, Suitewayo), 18-22 Christolews, 1st Test (Outset's Citis, Bulawayo), 26-30 Zinchelwes, 2nd Test (Green's Citis, Suitewayo), 25-30 Zinchelwes, 2nd Test (Sirrer SC), Jenning 1 Zinchelwes, 2nd

axes; grinding personalities,

maybe.

If England need encouragement it has been provided by the A team in Australia which, under the guidance of Adam Hollicake's captaincy and Mike Gatting's manage-

It will take more than ban-

ning wives and girlfriends over Christmas (logical as that decision has been made by the itinerary folsted upon them) for England to foster such a collective spirit, al-though David Lloyd's uplifting presence as the coach should help enormously and Ian Botham's motivational qualities will also be welcomed by players who idolised him in their youth.

To the tourist Zimbabwe might mean Victoria Falls, Lake Kariba, Hwange Game Park and the Eastern Highlands but for the England party the reality is six weeks banged up in two centres, Harare and Bulawayo, where

tested to the limit.

Now Illingworth has departed, chuntering into a same speaking. The we don't win speaking. "If we don't win as Regland captain next sum-speaking." If we don't win as Regland captain next sum-assessment.

Peter May's record of 41 Tests assessment. "In an agement," was Reeve's assessment. The previous A standard to provide a parting gift, we don't win speaking. "If we don't win as a huge embar as Rod Marsh, but it would be too simplistic to dismiss Reeve's evaluation in his new biography as their cricketing base their cricketing base that England should win in assessment.

Limited-overs cricket is not Afterton's forte, and Pakistan was not Illingworth's, but it would be too simplistic to dismiss Reeve's evaluation in his new biography as merely the sound of grinding their animation.

It will take more than ban- limited overs cricket is not Afterton's forte, and Pakistan was not Illingworth's, but it would be too simplistic to dismiss Reeve's evaluation only the A squad's ability but their animation.

It will take more than ban- limited overs cricket is not Afterton's forte, and Pakistan was not Illingworth's, but it would be too simplistic to dismiss Reeve's evaluation only the A squad's ability but their animation.

It will take more to Australia four years ago which was a huge embar rassment. Even such a habit tour to Australia four years ago which was a huge embar rassment. Even such a habit tour to Australia four years ago which was a huge embar rassment. Even such a habit the farmers will be anticipating the Australian Academy's the Australian insists that they must aban-don the safety-conscious atti-

> nation. David Houghton, approaching his 40th birthday, is Zimbabwe's one batsman of high calibre and he is yearning for his swansong. The Flower brothers and Alistair Campbell are also not without ability. But, if England cannot dismiss a side that made only 133 and 200 against Pakistan last month, to lose by 10 wickets in Falsalabad, they will not make much impression

tudes that have marked their formative years as a Test

next summer. Zimbabwe's bowling threat rests predominantly with

against Australia's top six



brought 53 wickets at less than 20 runs aplece. If England's batsmen can negotiate Streak, and do not twitch at the first sight of Paul Strang's leg-spin, the rest of their pace attack should not be too

Henry Olonga, Moumelelo Mbangwa and Everton Ma-tambanadzo provide exhila-rating evidence that Zimba-bwe's development programme is finally taking effect but all three remain relatively unschooled and inexperienced.

The conclusion is inescap-able: Atherton's last visit to Zimbabwe helped to establish him as a Test batsman, and seven years on from that England A tour he has to prove on his return, that he does tested to the limit.

Logic suggests, however, bowler over the past two cessful Test captain.

Australia v West Indies: first Test, fourth day

Taylor sets a record target for Lara v Warne

Mike Selvey in Brisbane

EST INDIES negotiated a substan-tial hurdle at The Gabba yesterday evening, losing only one wicket and keeping the score-board ticking over after Aus-tralia's captain Mark Taylor asked them to make 420 in the had taken an unnecessarily best part of four sessions. In cautious route with only six 1,339 previous Test matches overs of the day to go and the over almost 122 years only two sides have made in excess of 400 to win. This would be a

In the 29 overs they faced West Indies kept their cool, played with common sense and spirit and reached 89 for the loss of the left-hander lucky to be caught by Taylor at slip when an outside edge ner deflected to the captain off lan Healy's pads.

It left them requiring a further 831 on the final day, or alternatively to negotiate 90 overs for a draw. Crucially Samuels and Sherwin Camp bell were parted on 54, played with some panache in making 29, surviving some testing de liveries from Warne into the rough outside his off-stump.

The right-handed Campbell dug in well for 28, realising that he needed to be at the crease for the final day; the last 40 minutes of his innings

were run-less. Earlier in the day Australia, ight for no wicket overnight. added a further 209 for six off 59 overs before they declared 20 minutes into the final ses-sion. Mark Waugh made 57 and Healy an unbeaten 45, thereby taking his match aggregate to 206 without dissal and in the process passing 3,000 Test runs. For a man deemed to be on the way out it

has been a good four days. However, the groin injury that prevented Steve Waugh from batting yesterday means that he will miss the second Test starting in Sydney on Fri-

Yesterday much of the debate still centred on Taylor's decision not to enforce the follow-on after West Indies' spec-tacular first-innings collapse, relying instead on Warne's powers as a leg-spinner.

Consensus was that Taylor West Indies' auphoria at the achievements of Carl Hooper and Shivnarine Chanderpaul

lower order. In Taylor's defence, however, was the knowledge that nothing untoward had happened for the bowlers, apart from the sappy unpredictable opening overs. Warne, with his powers of spin returning his powers of spin returning and a phenomenal record here, would always in Taylor's mind have been the

Australia
Becard Inelians (overnight 5-0)
*Al Teylor & Browne b Benjemin
*A Ponting & Browne b Bishop

R Ponting & Browne b Bishop

M Waugh o Browne b Bishop

M Beran & sub (Grillih) b Ambrose
†I tasty not out

Freitler un ost

Extres (b1, lb5, nb14)

day. His place is likely to be Stanley Streat end after only taken by Stuart Law, who impressed at Essex last season. footmarks. It was his fourth over — one of mixed fortune — that produced the wicket. With Warne dropping short, Samuels had pulled him over the leg-side for six and then four to bring up the helicanfour to bring up the half-cen-tury partnership but, in at-tempting the shot again, he top-edged the ball straight to Paul Reiffel on the square-leg mitt on it, the ball rolling over the boundary rope for four. Two balls later, however, Samuels pushed forward and Taylor took the catch.

If Samuels was unfortunate, it allowed a glimpse of vintage Lara, and his contests with Warne promise to be the focal point of the series.

key to success.

He was bowling from the knee and lashed it through extra-cover, a stroke that for timate over of the day he twice laid back and pulled Warne savagely to the mid-

For Australia the two innines of most significance came from the debutant opener Matthew Elliott and Michael Bevan, Both were sion as neither scored in the first innings. This time Kiliott than an hour, reaching 21, until Ian Bishop swung one back through his stiff attempt

at an on-drive.

Bevan, by contrast, was a mass of nerves. Out first ball in the first innings, he was dropped by Lara at first slip before he had scored and took 25 bails to get off the mark. But, having twice pulled Am-brose to the boundary to reach 20, he tried it a third time and sent a catch to square-leg. Australia may have needed to pick up the pace but the jury remains out on Bevan.



Bailed out . . . the debutant Kiliott, after a duck in the first innings, is bowled by Bisbop for 21 in the second SEAN GARNSWORTHY

Bacher table talk

HE league-table compe-tition for Test-playing nations proposed by the editor of Wisden, Matthew Engel, has been backed by South Africa. Ali Bacher, managing director of the republic's United Cricket Board, said yesterday: "The time is ripe to take a fresh look at

the way Test matches are organised. Engel's proposal is well thought out and we will be giving it our back-ing at the next International Cricket Council meeting in June 1997." Engel envisages each country playing a series of between one and five Tests against every other country over a four-year cycle, with two league-table points to

the winner and one each for a drawn series.

Bacher, speaking in the wake of his country's Test defeat in India, is to ask the John Reid's report from Ahmedabad, where South Africa were skittled for 105

"I don't mind losing but I don't like losing having been stuffed for three weeks beforehand on wickets and practice facilities which are not conducive to what we want." he said.

 An undefeated 133 from Surrey's Ben Hollicake — brother of the England A captain Adam — saw Eng-land Under-19s off to a stylish start on their Pakistan tour with a 58-run victory over Rawalpindi Under-19s

England's 273 for three was never threatened by the home side in the face of some tidy bowling from Jonathan Powell of Essex, who took three for 38 off his nine overs, and Durham's Stephen Harmison, whose seven overs with the

Schwarz finishes best in slow lane after power failure

David Williams in Chester

HE FIRST half of Armin Schwarz's season offered nothing but frustration and the second half nothing but success, yet even the run-away RAC Rally leader yes-terday found that this event In his case a last-minute

steering problem was more of a cautionary nip but others, notably the intrepid Formula One driver Martin Brundle, who escaped a flery crash, learned that Britain's fore-most rally is a daunting challenge in any conditions.
Schwarz had calmly negoti-

ated everything that the first blast of winter could throw at him over the three days, only to suffer a power-steering fail-ure in his Toyota with three stages to run.
His team decided to accept
extra time penalties and sac-

rifice some of the German's enormous lead rather than risk a last-minute accident.

enormous lead rather than risk a last-minute accident, but it was a gamble that could have led to exclusion for exceeding his meagre 15 minutes of permitted lateness.

As his co-driver Denis Giraudet glanced fretfully at his watch and a 10-minute job stretched to 15 minutes, it was plain that there is no such thing as an easy victory in this rally even when the serious opposition has gone.

mioka looked in doubt. "It's a very, very good feel-ing. It was specially difficult, because the RAC is never easy, even when there is no ice. I had nothing to lose," de-

Skoda will savour a remarkable third place thanks to Stig Blomqvist's mastery of front-wheel-drive cars on ice. Yet, if that was a personal triumph for the 51-

world championship for which this year's RAC quali-fied — melted away with the snow when the team leader Pavel Sibera blew his engine and Bernard Munster of Bel-

It was the only time when Schwarz's comprehensive tri-umph over the Japanese Subaru driver Masao Ka-

clared Schwarz, the first Ger-man to win the RAC.

personal triumph for the Si-year-old Swede, 25 years after his first RAC victory, overall the rally was a disappoint-ment for the Czechs.

Their chances of winning the two-litre title for two-wheel-drive cars — the only world championship for

Rugby Union

Bath draw revitalised Irish in cup

ATH will stage the only all-League One clash, against London Irish, when the fifth round of the Pilkington Cup is played on December 21. Bath, the holders, have

rated the knock-out compe-tition as one they must win, having been eliminated from the European Cup at the quarter-final stage. The Exiles, whose only final ap-

Saturday, writes Robert

Armstrong.

The experienced Bath tighthead prop, who has 21 caps, is included in a 24-man squad from which the team to face the New Zealanders will be approximated today.

announced today.

Matt Dawson, the Northampton scrum-half, and Rich-

mond's captain Ben Clarke have also been added to the 21

players on duty for last Satur-

day's victory over Italy.
Clarke was in the original
XV but a dead leg forced the
England open-side to with-

rector of rugby. Yesterday the Bath and

ICTOR UBOGU may make an unexpected international comeback for England against the New Zealand Barbarians at Twickenham on South Africa at Twickenham

England captain Phil de Glanville was "delighted" to get home advantage after playing the majority of their cup ties away from the Rec since the start of the Nineties. However, Bath's five defeats this season, their pearance in 1980 ended in worst run since the early

South Africa at Twickenham last November. Since the start of the season he had not been included in any squad named by England's coach Jack Rowell. Ubogu may be recalled if the pack leader Jason Leonard does not recover from the injured elbow suffered on Saturday.

fered on Saturday.

However, Rowell make

keep faith with the Coventry prop Robin Hardwick, who made his England debut when he replaced Leonard near the end. To date, Hardwick is the only player to sign a contract with the PMI

defeat by Leicester, con- | Eighties, offers the Irish | but his chances of playing at ceded nine tries to Bath in a | some hope of a surprise. | Central Park look slim. Orsome hope of a surprise. Sale's reputation as a danleague hammering in Octogerous floater will be strengthened by their home draw against Richmond, alber but have since acquired a powerful motivator in Willie Anderson, their dithough the London club could prove more formida

ble than some sides from the Sale have yet to reach the final but a recent league victory over Harlequins hinted at extra staying power. Martin Offiah will make a nostalgic return to Wigan when Bedford visit Orrell

Sheasby to make a second ap-

would drop out of the match

Dawson, ever present in

two other scrum-halves, the

new cap Andy Gomarsall and

Kyran Bracken. If Gomarsall, who came off with a leg in-

jury after scoring two tries

Dawson on the bench.

Preston Grasshoppers, the League Five hopefuls, will Rowell adds Ubogu and Dawson to squad

"It will be great to see him back here: we couldn't have hoped for a better draw," said Ken Moore, a Preston committee man. Preston, It is understood Rowell would prefer to announce an unchanged side — which would probably leave Clarke on the bench and allow

> could opt for a larger local COUNT OPE INTER THE TOTAL STREET ANCH PLICENCE OF A COUNTY VESSER OF KENDERS OF THE TOTAL NOTIFICAL TO THE STREET OF THE TOTAL NOTIFICAL THE STREET OF THE TOTAL THE T

England's championship win-ning team last season, joins against Italy, fails to recover, then Bracken is likely to join Mike Catt at half-back with rently with Sale.

ing 6,000 spectators into their compact Edge Hall Road ground to the tempta tion of extra capacity. Newcastle and West Hart-lepool meet in a North-East derby at Kingston Park knowing that their league status could be reversed next season if the promotion and relegation battles follow present trends.

rell are likely to prefer pack

give a special welcome to their former fly-half Paul Grayson, now of Northamp-ton and England.

hoping to treble their aver

 Neath are set to complete the signing of the former Widnes, Leeds and Great Britain rugby league for-ward Richie Eyres, curto cancel the call. But he went ahead," the coach added after

Ice Hockey

Blaisdell rumpus provokes official call for stick gauges

Vic Batchelder

NICO TOEMEN, the BIHA technical director, has said be will ensure that cusscored one of the Eagles' goals tom-made stick-measuring gauges are delivered to all British referees later this week in response to a furious row involving Ayr's Markus Berwanger at the weekend. Toemen, who claimed that the International Ice Hockey minutes thanks to goals from Federation could not supply the device, says he has been forced to act in an effort to ascertain the legality of sticks often "doctored" by players seeking to enhance puck control and shooting power. Referees do make checks if

requested by an opposing team's coach or captain. If the curvature of the blade exceeds L5cm, the stick is illegal and earns the user a two-minute penalty; if not, the complaining team is penalised. Nottingham Panthers' coach Mike Blaisdell made

such a request 37 seconds from the end of Saturday's game with visiting Ayr, then a player short and 3-2 up.

Blaisdell described as "a joke" the referee Andy Car-son's attempt to check Berwanger's stick with a tape measure. "You can't measure a stick that way. When I saw he didn't have a gauge I tried

with the others coming from Mark Cupolo and Sam Gro-Morgan scored for Panthers. Nottingham's luck was also out on Sunday when, despite their game with Manchester Storm and going 2-0 up in 11

the stick was declared legal

Earlier Berwanger had

and Ayr hung on to win.

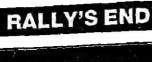
Ashley Tait and Laxdal, they iost 5-4. Storm hit back through Hilton Ruggles, who scored twice, Craig Woodcroft, Nick Poole and Dale Jago. Daryi Olsen and Garth Premak

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SportsGuardian





Fire escape . . . Martin Brundle's debut in the Network Q RAC Rally came to a sudden end shortly before dawn yesterday when the engine of his Escort Cosworth burst into flames after the car careered into a ditch on the first stage near Hafren in Wales. The extinguisher in the car wouldn't work,' said a spectator who helped pull the grand prix driver and his

Premiership: Nottingham Forest 2, Blackburn Rovers 2

Cooper Saves pargai

David Hopps

WO goals in three second-half minutes seemed to have trans night, Gallacher equalising and Wilcox apparently providing the winner to a match that neither side could afford to lose. But then, with Rovers counting the benefits of a sixpointer that would have lifted and above Coventry, Cooper equalised for Forest from point-blank range in the dying seconds.

Blackburn always have Jack Walker's millions to sustain them through a bitter winter, and for Forest, subject all season to takeover speculation, there was a further deboard's recommendation of a £13 million bid led by a longstanding supporter, Sandy

A former Partick Thistle

company Porterbrook to Stasecoach for £475 million. The takeover battle is far from settled, however. Forest's financial advisers, Price Waterhouse, still favour a rival bid prepared by a consortium led by a Monte Carlo businessman Lawrie Lewis. and including the former

Spurs chairman Irving Scholar.

They have vowed to approach the shareholders directly and that could extend the uncertainty deep into the new year. That, though, was off the pitch. Forest's priority was points and Stuart Pearce had marked his 500th league game by declaring Forest would not endure a second relegation in four years. A juddering early tackle against Gary Flitcroft was enough to dissuade any-body from open disagreement and his penalty, in first-half stoppage time, even made his

words credible.
The award came when A former Partick Thistle Chris Allen was clumsily player, Anderson made 237 million in seven months during the privatisation of the defence. Pearce rammed in

crowd to stone. The absence of Woan, the latest Forest player to be the subject of transfer speculation, had removed the last semblance of creativity from



either side threatened. Forest's Kevin Campbell ran at Colin Hendry and was brought down on the right hand angle of the area; Pearce's wickedly swerving free-kick cleared Blackburn's half was half-over before

bar by inches. Then Pearce, a wondrously inspirational figure, put in a reckless tackle on Gallacher tight by the touchline that was a frightening miscalculation. Tim Sherwood, ind, raced 10 yards and seemed to throw a punch. A less lenient referee than Mr Alcock would have dismissed both players, but he settled

for two yellow cards.

McKinlay, just as ferocious
on Haaland a minute later,
and Campbell, late on Kenna. were also booked by half-

time. The insecurities of both were heightened by a strong blustery wind and the more frantic the game be-came the more Forest prospered. Hendry was deceived on more than one occasion neither Campbell nor Dean Saunders could complete. An error by Steve Chettle

almost allowed Rovers to | for handball, after consulting steal the lead seven minutes before half-time, Gallacher infrom defence and quickly transferring to Sherwood whose first-time shot was pushed aside by a bulky flaure in stomach-churning dayglo orange, otherwise known as Mark Crossley, the Forest

goalkeeper. Forest's toll was evident but Blackburn, in flashes, ssed the greater finesse and 12 minutes into the second half they were in front. Gallacher equalised with an instant finish from 10 yards after Le Saux's flick with the outside of his left foot had completed an intri-

cate movement. Then, before Forest could steady themselves, Wilcox scored at the far post after Crossley had pushed Gallacher's rasping shot into his

Forest were convinced they had equalised on the hour when Flowers failed to gather Phillips's corner and Blather wick forced the ball over the

Set by Crispa

Micos. Maisrees P Alcock (Redhjil).

neader from Lyttle's cross then bounced against the bar. bringing a courageous clear-ing header by Hendry, and both Haaland and Rovers' Sutton spurned fine chances as the contest became in-

creasingly feverish. Rettingkers Forest Crossley; Lyttle. Chettie, Blatherwick (Lee, 67m/n), Pearce, Cooper, Hastlend, Phillips, Allen, Saunders (Roy, 78), Campbell.

Hackborn: Rovers: Flowers; Kenna, Hendry, Berg, Le Saux, Sherwood, Flitzroft, McKinley, Gellacher, Sutton.

Too easy just to tear the FA off a strip



Richard Williams

DON'T know what you're all getting so upset about, I really don't. The way I look at it, the chaps at the Foot-ball Association are practically providing a social service. I mean, if they didn't change the England kit every five minutes, the fans would still be spending money. And on what? Soft

money. And on what? Soft drugs and Spice Girls posters, probably. Graham Kelly should get a knighthood. And as for that David Mellor... Well, no, not really. It was the sheer commercial vicious-ness of the FA's latest strip change that upset people, and no wonder. The timing was calculated to cause maximum damage to the wallets of any-one who follows England with enough devotion to buy such things, representing a blatant exploitation of innocent emo-tions like enthusiasm, loyalty and patriotism.

We live in a free-market economy, set up in such a way as to encourage manufactur-ers and retailers to maximise their takings in all circum-stances. First Mrs Thatcher legitimised avarice, then the National Lottery institution-alised it. Between them they officially removed greed from the list of deadly sins. So, if Kelly and his minions have indeed provided a service in recent days, it is by provoking a furore which reminds us that the acceptance of linan-cial rapacity has its limits, after all, even in the minds of the English citizenry of the

What the affair also calls into question is the nature and role of the FA, of its internal balance between the requirement to operate on a sound commercial footing and its essential function as an administrator of services pro

bono publico. Thanks to the legacy of Thatcherism, the idea of giv-ing something back to society has been almost wholly expunged from the conscience of anyone engaged in the world of commerce. After all, if there is no such thing as society, how can you give something back to it? The only imperative is to produce profits, and a dividend for the shareholders. From that, or so we are taught, all else will flow. The FA, set up more than a

century ago to do no more than look after the game, has caught the bug. It could hardly have done otherwise, given the temp-tations created by the wealth flooding into the game.

Of course, such commercial awareness has its beneficial side. Visitors to the FA's Lan-caster Gate headquarters leave with an impression of an effi-ciently run organisation which blends a proper respect for the illustrious past—a suggestion of oak panelling, a vista of tro-phy cabinets bulging with cups, vases, shields and other memorabilia - with a recognition of the need to keep abreast of the rapidly changing culture of sport in general and football in

On balance, too, its modern isation strategies have been a success. The FA's role in the renovation of so many stadiums, its support of the launch of the Premier League and its carefully staged relationship with satellite television, combined with an improve stewardship of the senior in-ternational XI, have pushed the English game back into something approaching its former standing.

But someone has to be then to identify the moment at which the balance is lost, and which the basines is lost, and to say enough is enough. When a greenish stripe ap-peared on the England kit last year, at about the same time as the insurance company Green Flag became the team's chief sponsor, I began to feel the tall might be wagging the dog. So far as I am aware, Eng-land's colours are white, red and blue, Green belongs elsewhere.

Nobody said anything about that. But now the FA's commercial department really has let things go too far and is in inelegant retreat.

ERHAPS we shouldn't get too plous about it. Our society loves brand names, logos and peer-group identification with such fervour that it will take a sociologist as vet unborn to devise a satisfactory explanation. It's a relatively harmless addiction. And most children want

whatever they think they stand a chance of getting, from a Big Mac with extra fries to an Apple Mac with all the trimmings. Saying no at the right time is a parent's responsibility, as is accompanying the denial with an honest explanation of the reasons.

The FA has a duty to remember what it is there for. and to act responsibly. But. instead of expecting it to provide us with a definition of materialism's acceptable limits, perhaps we should be taking a harder look at ourselves.

transport industry, selling the penalty with an expres-the Derbyshire train-leasing sion that could turn an entire Clark . . . in the hot seat Charlton player positive for drugs cocktail

Neil Robinson

N 18-year-old Charlton Athletic footballer was yesterday suspended positive for a cocktail of drugs including cocaine.

cunnabis and Eestasy. Jay Notley, a first-year professional, was charged with misconduct by the Football Association, Both Ecstasy and cocaine are class A substances, the latter being considered perfor-

Notley, who faces a lengthy ban when he appears before an FA disciplinary commission, was tested by the doping control unit which visited Charlton's training ground on November 4 - two days after he returned from a month's loan with Dagenham and Redbridge, the ICIS Premier

League club. He is the third Chariton player to be caught by the random tests. The teenagers Dean Chandler and Lee Bowyer, who has since moved to Leeds, were or-

dered to have drug counsel-ling after their positive tests for cannabis. Another Charlton player Craig Sloan publicly admitted drug charged.

The last footballer to be convicted of cocaine abuse, Orient's Roger Stanislaus, was banned for a year and sacked by his club. Earlier this month the former Sus-sex cricketer Ed Giddins had his appeal rejected against a 19-month ban imposed for

The FA's spokesman Steve

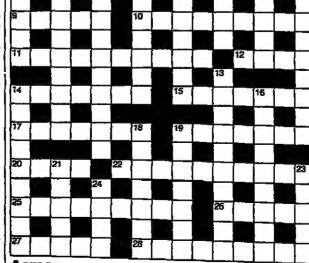
it is obviously a serious mat-ter." He claimed, however, that football is winning the fight against drugs. "This season we have stepped up our testing to around 500 and this is the first positive result from around 300 already carried out, which is

However, last year a survey on drug abuse among footballers for a television documentary reported that

encouraging. But we cannot

Double said: "It is the first one in four footballers at time we have come across a cocktail of drugs like this, so ing taken drugs, and nine out of 10 said they had been approached. Charlton's manager Alan

Curbishley said: "We are very disappointed. After Lee Bowyer situation we have worked very closely with the FA and the police. We have had drug awareness talks here for veryone and we have been doing in-house drug test-ing. The players at this football club know they are



Guardian Crossword No 20,820

Across

1 Painter set against firm (9)

6 Always after small cut (5) 9 Referring to a young woman as a queen (5) 10 Return of copies considered

but not all together (9) 11 Endeavour to introduce force (10) 12 A bird in danger — nearly

extinct (4) 14 Forms a secret organisation

15 Far from cool (7)

17 No way to hold court in a metropolitan area (7) 19 Butlers unfortunately talk

big (7) 20 The fool may be seen about a good deal (4)

22 Cope with direction and

25 Decoration of golf club quite unplea 26 Put into a container and ruin possibly a quarter (5)

27 An article about a note's number (5) 28 Sang "Alone" off key in a Texan place (3,6)

Down 1 Few put inside mind -

that's cutting (5)

2 Personal covering for retirement (9) 3 The afflicted tire a lot. No

allowance is made (10) 4 Restaurants the brethren ring first (7)

5 Once sat for a picture in the nude (7)

6 Cupid may be sent up with some initation (4) 7 Choosy individual making

CROSSWORD SOLUTION 20,819

8 Rublound character of great importance (3-6)

13 Taking on a certain braggadocio (10) 14 A man forced into private service (9)

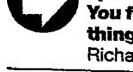
16 Assign property (9) 18 Put out - used badly, though obliging (7) 19 The peak is over, which is a

21 Smell nothing disagreeable (5) 23 Got an assembly to dance (5) 24 Pain in the stomach, entirely

due to stress (4) Solution temperature Then call our solutions line

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"Sigmund Freud might have had something to say about the gourds," speculated Boston. That's what happens in the world of Glen Baxter. You find yourself talking in inverted commas and doing unacccustomed things like speculating. Minutes later I was surmising.

Richard Boston on Glen Baxter omail 22 page 4